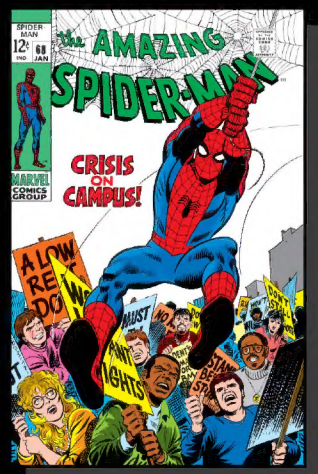
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

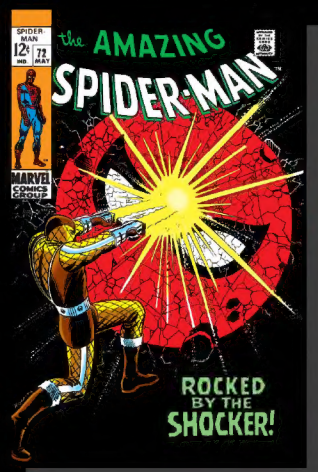
MARVEL MASTERWORKS®

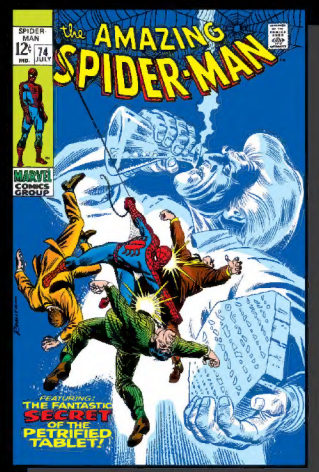
BY STAN LEE & JOHN ROMITA

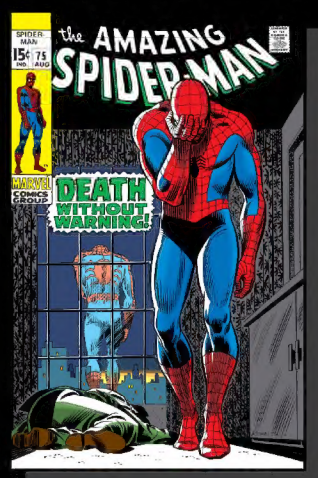
WITH JOHN BUSCEMA

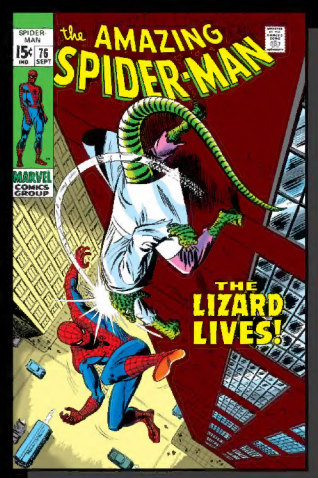
MARVEL











THE MARVEL MASTERWORKS PROUDLY PRESENT THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS COMICS AND SUPER HEROES FROM THEIR VERY BEGINNINGS IN A SERIES OF PAINSTAKINGLY RESTORED ARCHIVAL VOLUMES.

MARVEL

COLLECTING *THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN* #68-77 & *MARVEL SUPER-HEROES* #14

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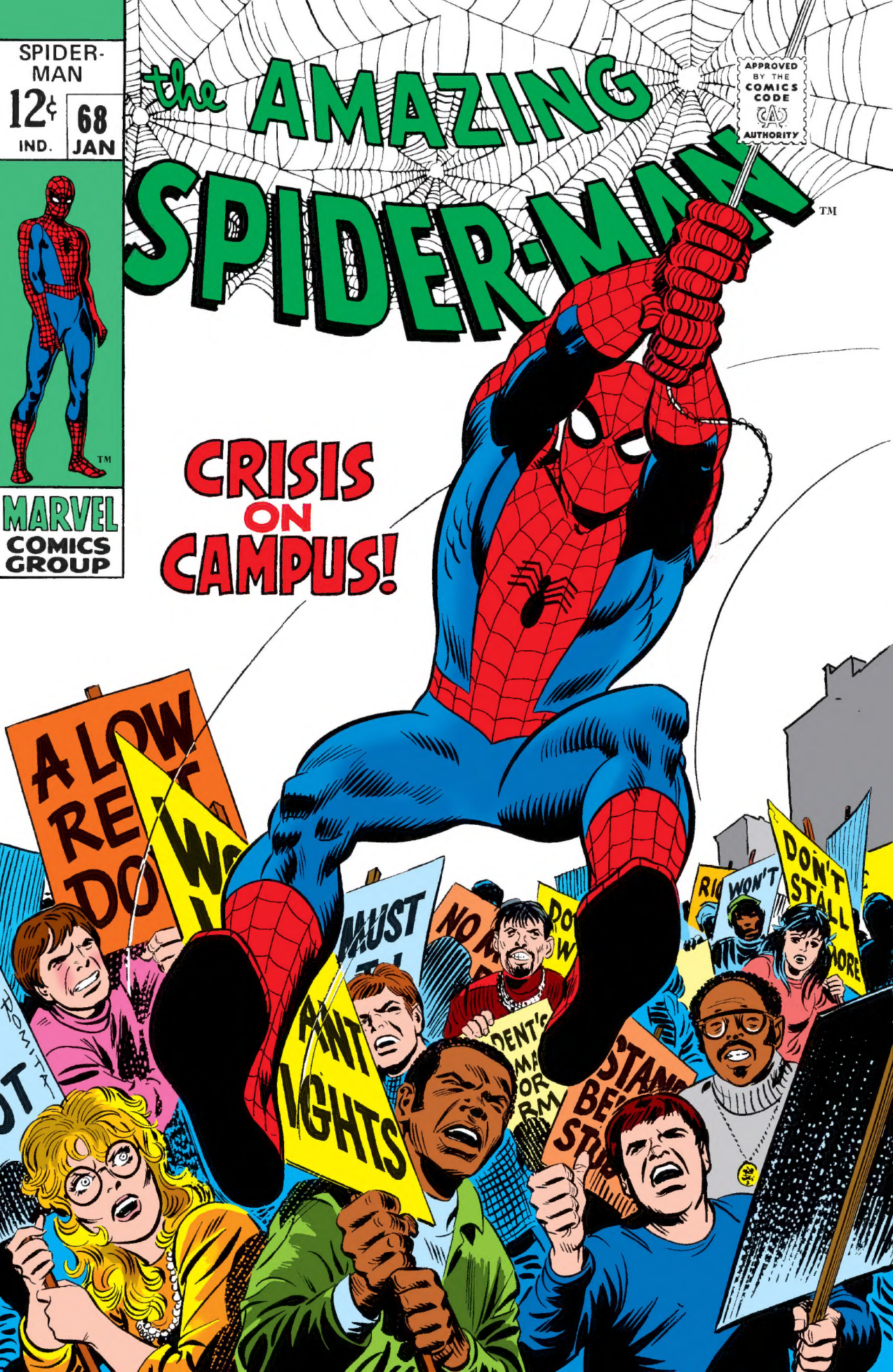
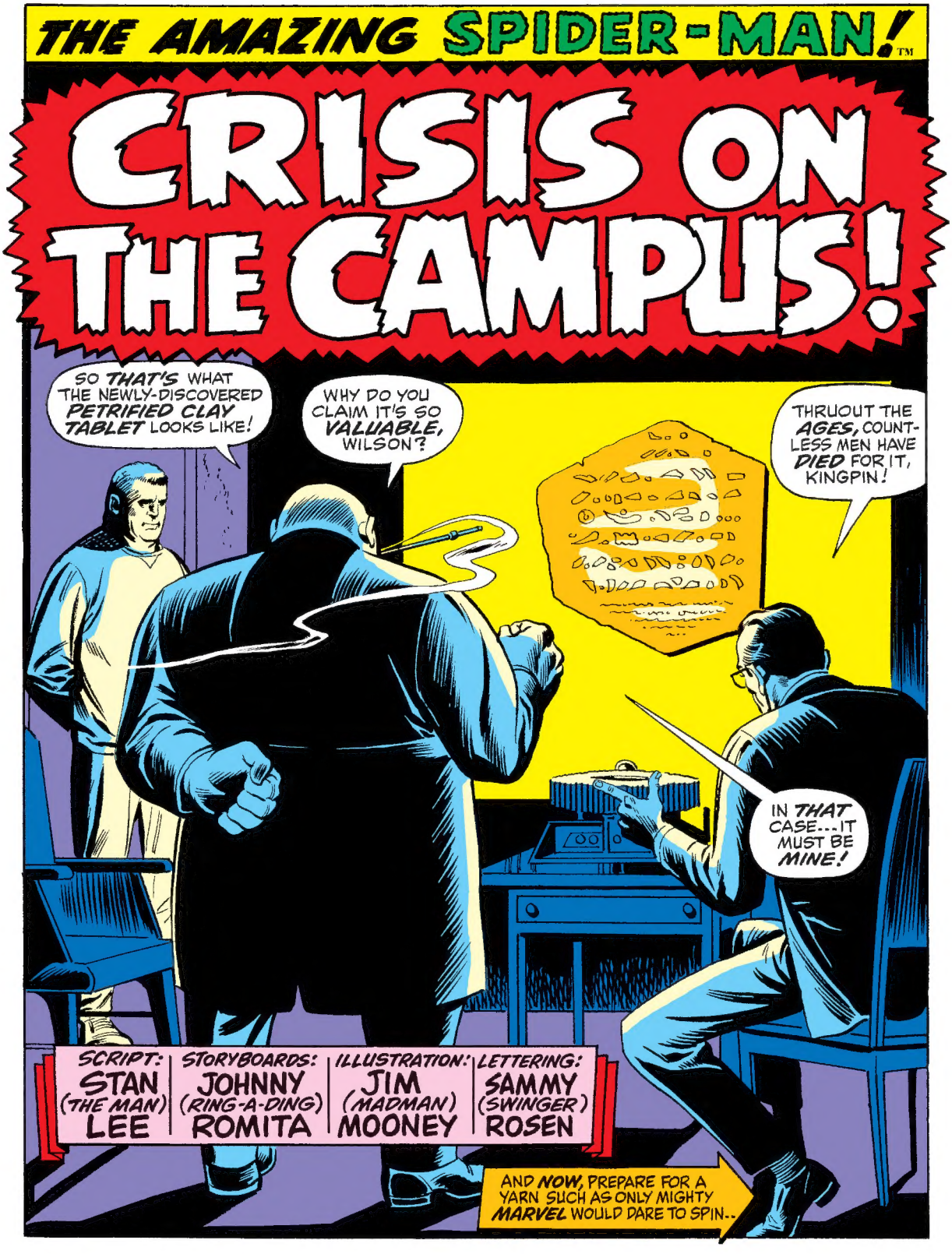

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
68
JAN
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CRISIS ON CAMPUS!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
DON'T STALL
WON'T


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
CRISIS ON THE CAMPUS!
SO THAT'S WHAT THE NEWLY-DISCOVERED PETRIFIED CLAY TABLET LOOKS LIKE!
WHY DO YOU CLAIM IT'S SO VALUABLE, WILSON?
THRUOUT THE AGES, COUNTLESS MEN HAVE DIED FOR IT, KINGPIN!
IN THAT CASE...IT MUST BE MINE!
SCRIPT: STAN (THE MAN) LEE
STORYBOARDS: JOHNNY (RING-A-DING) ROMITA
ILLUSTRATION: JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY
LETTERING: SAMMY (SWINGER) ROSEN
AND NOW, PREPARE FOR A YARN SUCH AS ONLY MIGHTY MARVEL WOULD DARE TO SPIN..

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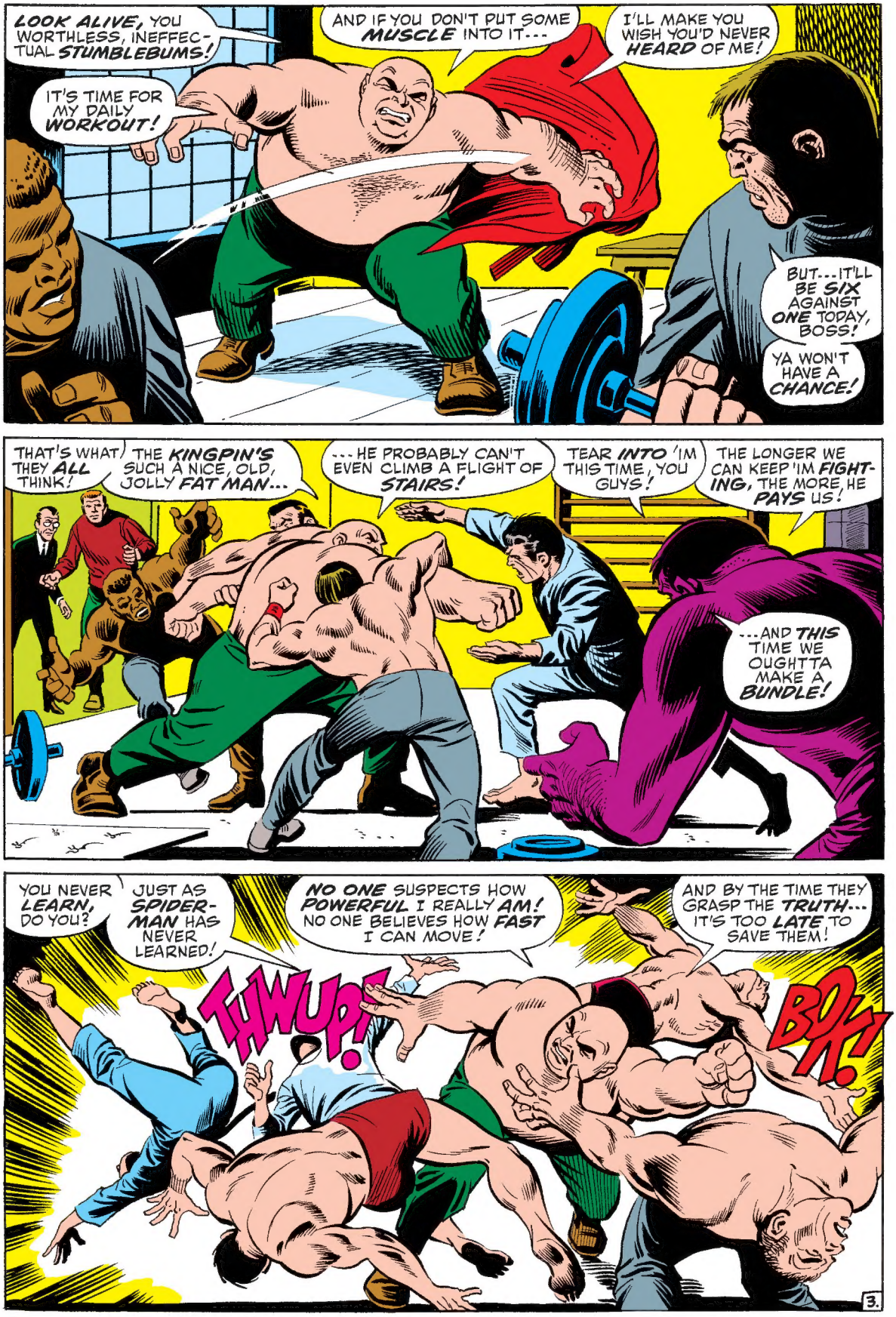
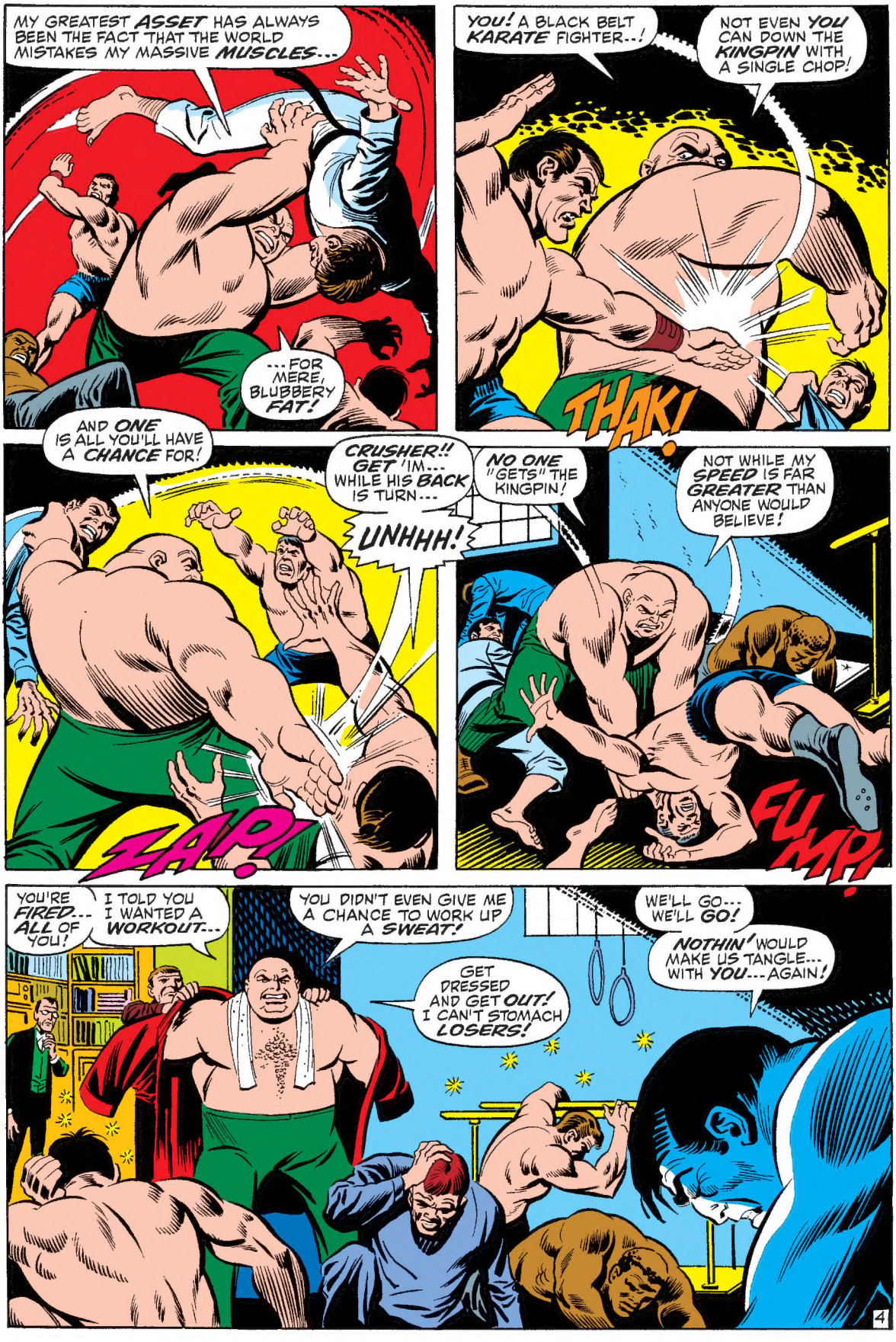
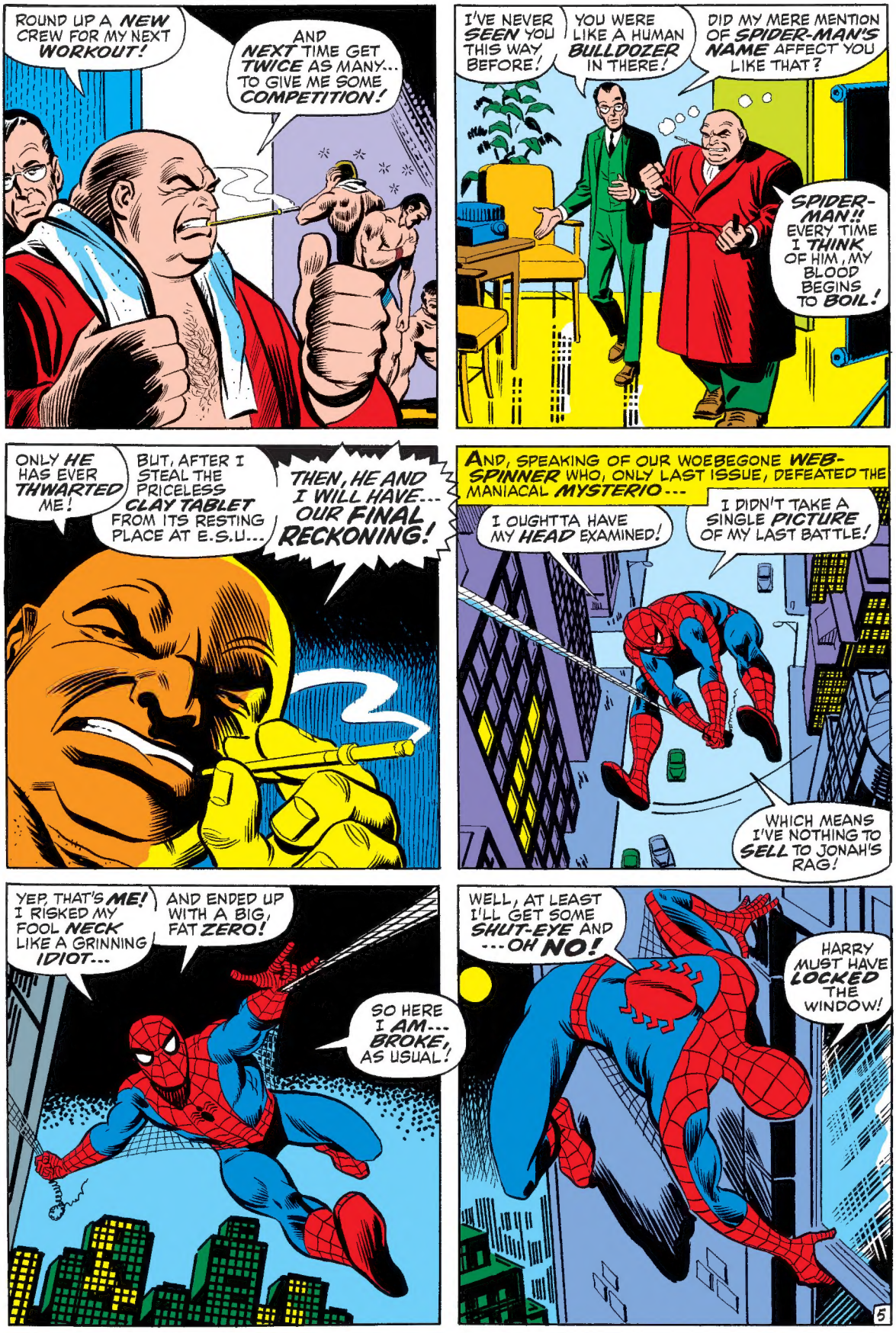
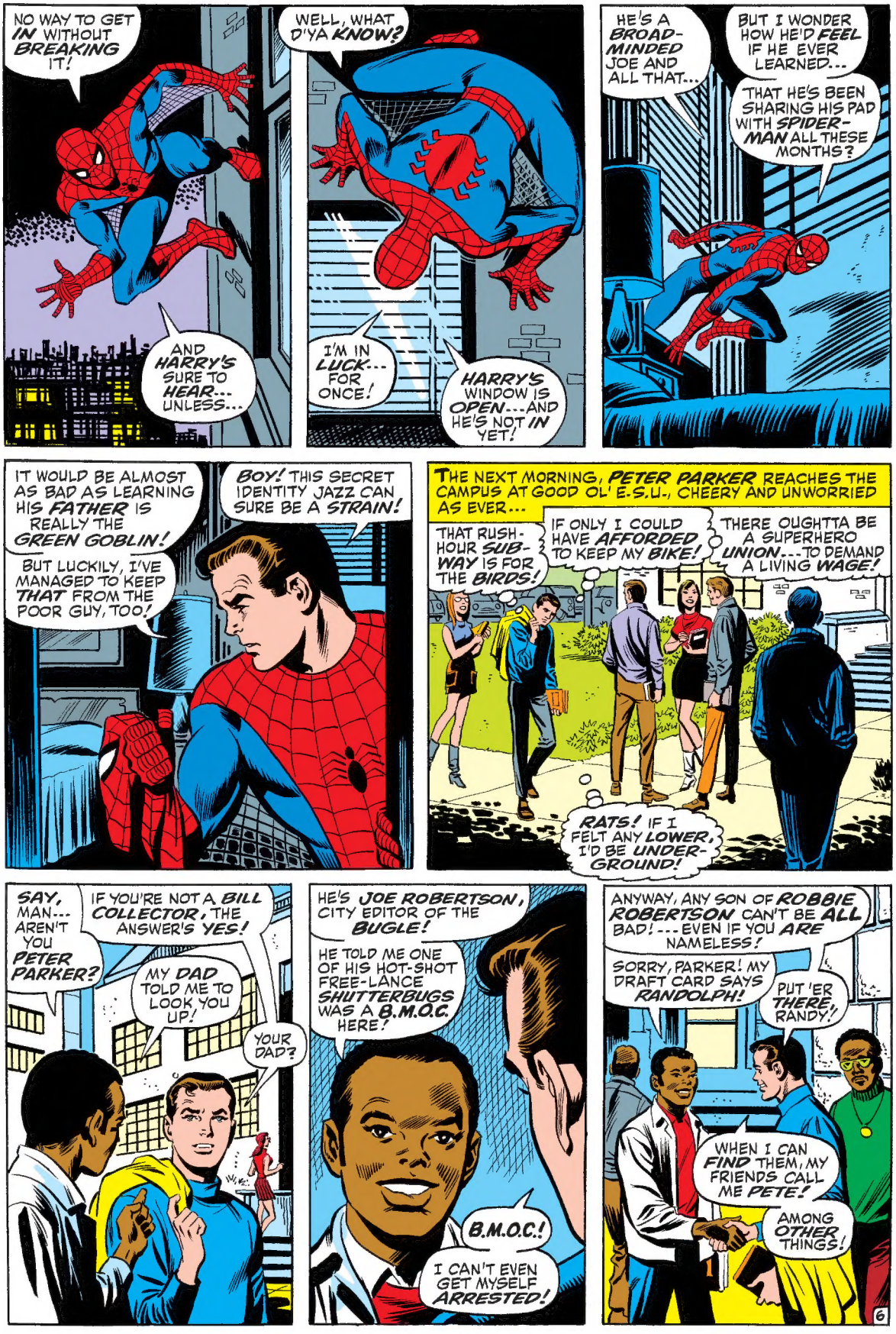
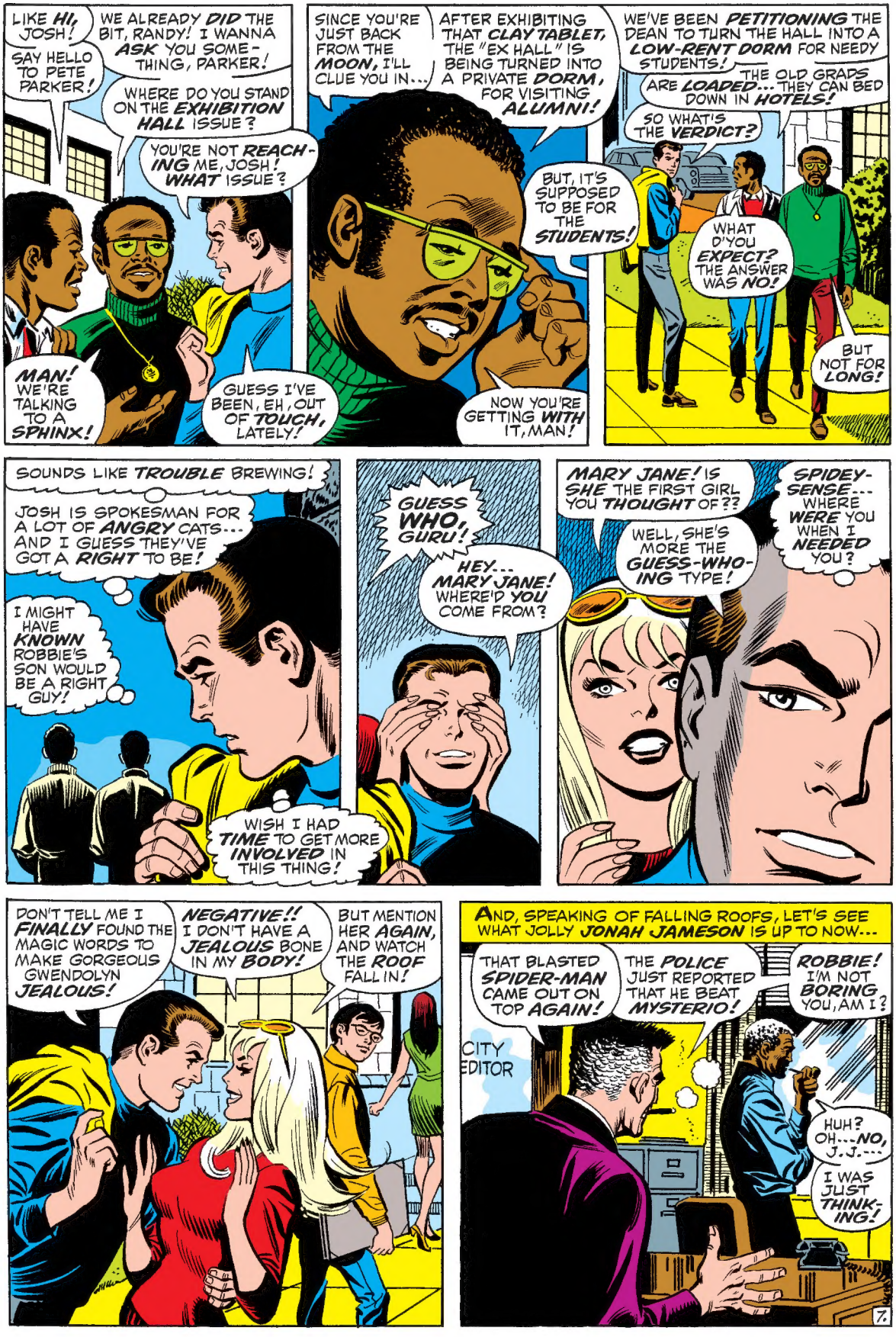
IT'S EVEN OLDER THAN THE PRICELESS DEAD SEA SCROLLS!
THE MAN WHO CAN DECIPHER IT MAY LEARN THE GREATEST SECRETS OF ALL TIME!
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!
WHERE IS IT NOW? HOW CAN I FIND IT?
FINDING IT IS SIMPLE!
THE SCIENCE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN SENDING IT TO DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES...
HOPING THAT ONE OF THEM WILL BE ABLE TO READ ITS MESSAGE!
PRESENTLY, IT'S ON EXHIBIT AT THE CAMPUS OF E.S.U., HERE IN THE CITY!
GOOD! IT'LL BE CHILD'S PLAY FOR ME TO SEIZE IT FROM THERE!
BUT, IT'S UNDER HEAVY GUARD!
AND WHAT OF SPIDER-MAN?
YOU CAN'T EVEN SNEEZE IN THAT PART OF TOWN WITHOUT HIM CRAWLING OUT OF THE WOODWORK!
SPIDER-MAN?!!
DO YOU THINK I'D CHANGE MY PLANS FOR HIM?
THOK!
IT WAS ONLY THRU THE SHEEREST LUCK THAT HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE ME IN THE PAST!
I'VE BEEN HOPING OUR PATHS WOULD CROSS AGAIN!
FOR, I'LL NEVER LET MYSELF FORGET... WHAT I OWE HIM!
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW EASILY THE KINGPIN CAN CRUSH A DOZEN SPIDER-MEN ---!
BUT, LEST YOU THINK I'M MERELY WHISTLING IN THE DARK...
2.


LOOK ALIVE, YOU WORTHLESS, INEFFECTUAL STUMBLEBUMS!
IT'S TIME FOR MY DAILY WORKOUT!
AND IF YOU DON'T PUT SOME MUSCLE INTO IT---
I'LL MAKE YOU WISH YOU'D NEVER HEARD OF ME!
BUT...IT'LL BE SIX AGAINST ONE TODAY, BOSS!
YA WON'T HAVE A CHANCE!
THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL THINK!
THE KINGPIN'S SUCH A NICE, OLD, JOLLY FAT MAN...
---HE PROBABLY CAN'T EVEN CLIMB A FLIGHT OF STAIRS!
TEAR INTO 'IM THIS TIME, YOU GUYS!
THE LONGER WE CAN KEEP 'IM FIGHTING, THE MORE, HE PAYS US!
---AND THIS TIME WE OUGHTTA MAKE A BUNDLE!
YOU NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?
JUST AS SPIDER-MAN HAS NEVER LEARNED!
NO ONE SUSPECTS HOW POWERFUL I REALLY AM! NO ONE BELIEVES HOW FAST I CAN MOVE!
AND BY THE TIME THEY GRASP THE TRUTH... IT'S TOO LATE TO SAVE THEM!
THWUP!
BOK!
3.

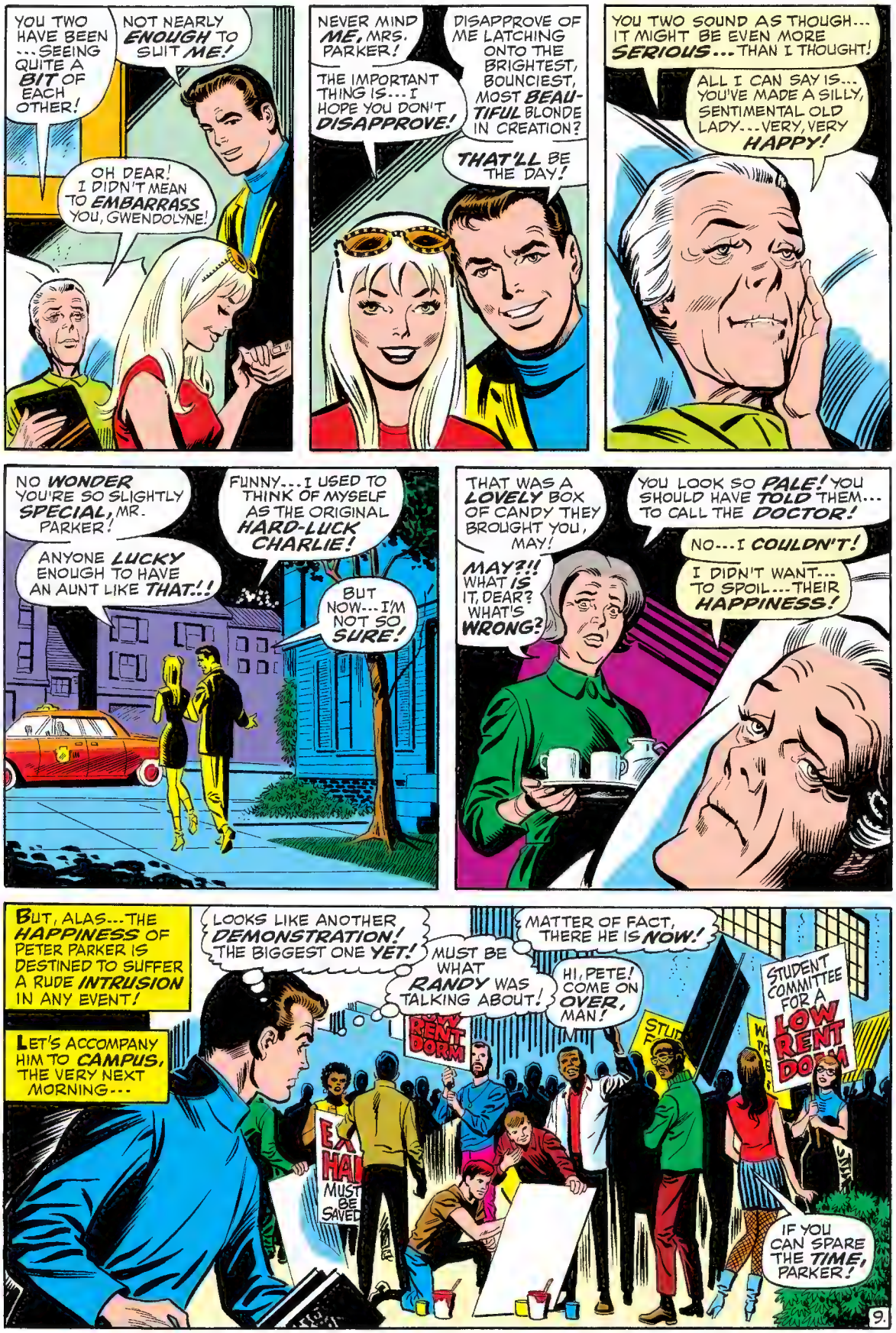

MY GREATEST ASSET HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE FACT THAT THE WORLD MISTAKES MY MASSIVE MUSCLES...
...FOR MERE, BLUBBERY FAT!
YOU! A BLACK BELT KARATE FIGHTER--!
NOT EVEN YOU CAN DOWN THE KINGPIN WITH A SINGLE CHOP!
THAK!
AND ONE IS ALL YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE FOR!
CRUSHER!! GET 'IM... WHILE HIS BACK IS TURN...
UNHHH!
ZAP!
NO ONE "GETS" THE KINGPIN!
NOT WHILE MY SPEED IS FAR GREATER THAN ANYONE WOULD BELIEVE!
FU MP!
YOU'RE FIRED... ALL OF YOU!
I TOLD YOU I WANTED A WORKOUT...
YOU DIDN'T EVEN GIVE ME A CHANCE TO WORK UP A SWEAT!
GET DRESSED AND GET OUT! I CAN'T STOMACH LOSERS!
WE'LL GO... WE'LL GO!
NOTHIN' WOULD MAKE US TANGLE... WITH YOU...AGAIN!
4


ROUND UP A NEW CREW FOR MY NEXT WORKOUT!
AND NEXT TIME GET TWICE AS MANY... TO GIVE ME SOME COMPETITION!
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU THIS WAY BEFORE!
YOU WERE LIKE A HUMAN BULLDOZER IN THERE!
DID MY MERE MENTION OF SPIDER-MAN'S NAME AFFECT YOU LIKE THAT?
SPIDER-MAN!! EVERY TIME I THINK OF HIM, MY BLOOD BEGINS TO BOIL!
ONLY HE HAS EVER THWARTED ME!
BUT, AFTER I STEAL THE PRICELESS CLAY TABLET FROM ITS RESTING PLACE AT E.S.U...
THEN, HE AND I WILL HAVE... OUR FINAL RECKONING!
AND, SPEAKING OF OUR WOEBEGONE WEB-SPINNER WHO, ONLY LAST ISSUE, DEFEATED THE MANIACAL MYSTERIO...
I OUGHTTA HAVE MY HEAD EXAMINED!
I DIDN'T TAKE A SINGLE PICTURE OF MY LAST BATTLE!
WHICH MEANS I'VE NOTHING TO SELL TO JONAH'S RAG!
YEP, THAT'S ME! I RISKED MY FOOL NECK LIKE A GRINNING IDIOT...
AND ENDED UP WITH A BIG, FAT ZERO!
SO HERE I AM... BROKE, AS USUAL!
WELL, AT LEAST I'LL GET SOME SHUT-EYE AND ...OH NO!
HARRY MUST HAVE LOCKED THE WINDOW!
5

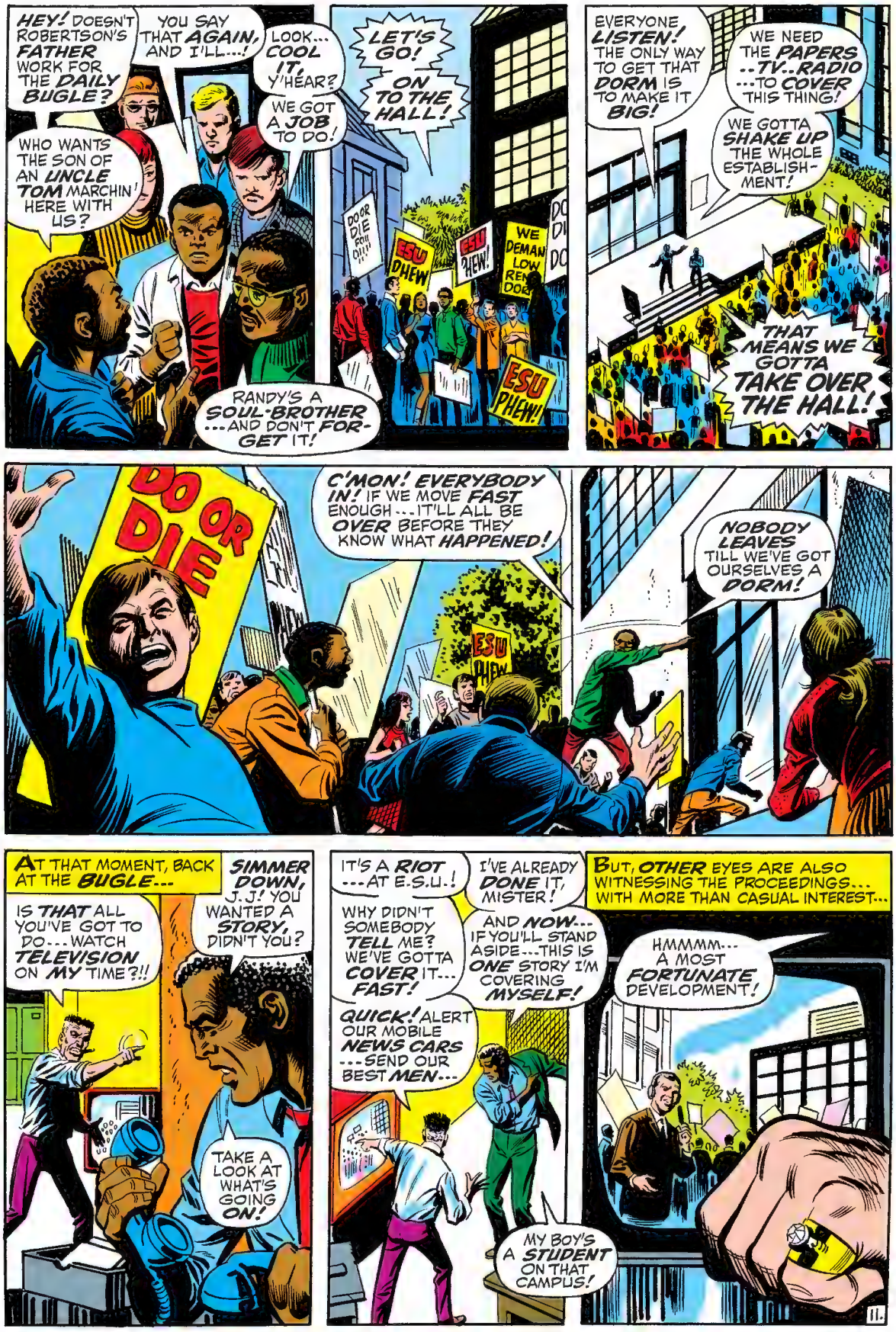

NO WAY TO GET IN WITHOUT BREAKING IT!
AND HARRY'S SURE TO HEAR... UNLESS...
WELL, WHAT D'YA KNOW?
I'M IN LUCK... FOR ONCE!
HARRY'S WINDOW IS OPEN... AND HE'S NOT IN YET!
HE'S A BROAD-MINDED JOE AND ALL THAT...
BUT I WONDER HOW HE'D FEEL IF HE EVER LEARNED...
THAT HE'S BEEN SHARING HIS PAD WITH SPIDER-MAN ALL THESE MONTHS?
IT WOULD BE ALMOST AS BAD AS LEARNING HIS FATHER IS REALLY THE GREEN GOBLIN!
BOY! THIS SECRET IDENTITY JAZZ CAN SURE BE A STRAIN!
BUT LUCKILY, I'VE MANAGED TO KEEP THAT FROM THE POOR GUY, TOO!
THE NEXT MORNING, PETER PARKER REACHES THE CAMPUS AT GOOD OL' E.S.U., CHEERY AND UNWORRIED AS EVER...
THAT RUSH-HOUR SUBWAY IS FOR THE BIRDS!
IF ONLY I COULD HAVE AFFORDED TO KEEP MY BIKE!
THERE OUGHTTA BE A SUPERHERO UNION... TO DEMAND A LIVING WAGE!
RATS! IF I FELT ANY LOWER, I'D BE UNDERGROUND!
SAY, MAN... AREN'T YOU PETER PARKER?
IF YOU'RE NOT A BILL COLLECTOR, THE ANSWER'S YES!
MY DAD TOLD ME TO LOOK YOU UP!
YOUR DAD?
HE'S JOE ROBERTSON, CITY EDITOR OF THE BUGLE!
HE TOLD ME ONE OF HIS HOT-SHOT FREE-LANCE SHUTTERBUGS WAS A B.M.O.C. HERE!
B.M.O.C.!
I CAN'T EVEN GET MYSELF ARRESTED!
ANYWAY, ANY SON OF ROBBIE ROBERTSON CAN'T BE ALL BAD! --- EVEN IF YOU ARE NAMELESS!
SORRY, PARKER! MY DRAFT CARD SAYS RANDOLPH!
PUT 'ER THERE, RANDY!
WHEN I CAN FIND THEM, MY FRIENDS CALL ME PETE!
AMONG OTHER THINGS!
6


LIKE HI, JOSH!
SAY HELLO TO PETE PARKER!
WE ALREADY DID THE BIT, RANDY! I WANNA ASK YOU SOMETHING, PARKER!
WHERE DO YOU STAND ON THE EXHIBITION HALL ISSUE?
YOU'RE NOT REACHING ME, JOSH! WHAT ISSUE?
MAN! WE'RE TALKING TO A SPHINX!
GUESS I'VE BEEN, EH, OUT OF TOUCH, LATELY!
SINCE YOU'RE JUST BACK FROM THE MOON, I'LL CLUE YOU IN...
AFTER EXHIBITING THAT CLAY TABLET, THE "EX HALL" IS BEING TURNED INTO A PRIVATE DORM, FOR VISITING ALUMNI!
BUT, IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE FOR THE STUDENTS!
NOW YOU'RE GETTING WITH IT, MAN!
WE'VE BEEN PETITIONING THE DEAN TO TURN THE HALL INTO A LOW-RENT DORM FOR NEEDY STUDENTS!
THE OLD GRADS ARE LOADED... THEY CAN BED DOWN IN HOTELS!
SO WHAT'S THE VERDICT?
WHAT D'YOU EXPECT? THE ANSWER WAS NO!
BUT NOT FOR LONG!
SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE BREWING!
JOSH IS SPOKESMAN FOR A LOT OF ANGRY CATS... AND I GUESS THEY'VE GOT A RIGHT TO BE!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN ROBBIE'S SON WOULD BE A RIGHT GUY!
WISH I HAD TIME TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN THIS THING!
GUESS WHO, GURU!
HEY... MARY JANE! WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
MARY JANE! IS SHE THE FIRST GIRL YOU THOUGHT OF??
WELL, SHE'S MORE THE GUESS-WHOING TYPE!
SPIDEY-SENSE... WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I NEEDED YOU?
DON'T TELL ME I FINALLY FOUND THE MAGIC WORDS TO MAKE GORGEOUS GWENDOLYN JEALOUS!
NEGATIVE!! I DON'T HAVE A JEALOUS BONE IN MY BODY!
BUT MENTION HER AGAIN, AND WATCH THE ROOF FALL IN!
AND, SPEAKING OF FALLING ROOFS, LET'S SEE WHAT JOLLY JONAH JAMESON IS UP TO NOW...
THAT BLASTED SPIDER-MAN CAME OUT ON TOP AGAIN!
THE POLICE JUST REPORTED THAT HE BEAT MYSTERIO!
CITY EDITOR
ROBBIE! I'M NOT BORING YOU, AM I?
HUH? OH---NO, J.J.---
I WAS JUST THINKING!
7.

THINKING? DO THAT ON YOUR OWN TIME!
I EXPECT MY CITY EDITOR TO COME UP WITH NEWS!!
YOU'VE ALREADY MADE THAT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR!
WHY DIDN'T WE GET THE STORY ABOUT SPIDER-MAN'S BATTLE WITH MYSTERIO UNTIL IT WAS ALL OVER?
BE REASONABLE, JJ! NO OTHER PAPER GOT IT, EITHER!
AND WHERE WAS PARKER, EH? ANSWER ME THAT! HOW COME HE DIDN'T BRING ME ANY PIX?
CONSIDERING THE WAY YOU TREAT THAT KID...
...IT'S A WONDER YOU EVER SEE HIM AT ALL!
I KNEW IT! THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS... WHEN YOU'RE TOO GENEROUS...TOO EASY-GOING!
PEOPLE START CRITICIZING YOU!
WHEN WILL I LEARN..??
IT DOESN'T PAY TO BE A LIVING DOLL!!
MY OWN CITY EDITOR ...TAKING PARKER'S SIDE AGAINST THE SWEETEST PUBLISHER IN TOWN!
WHY, OH WHY WAS I BORN TO BE A MARTYR?
POOR JAMESON! HE'S NEVER HAPPY... UNLESS HE'S MISERABLE!
BUT, HE'LL GET OVER IT SOON ENOUGH!
I WISH THAT I COULD GET OVER THIS FEELING OF APPREHENSION...
IF ONLY I KNEW WHAT WAS BUGGING RANDY!
HE MEANS SO MUCH...TO HIS MOTHER...AND TO ME!
FOR HER SAKE... AND HIS...
I MUST NOT FAIL!
SOMETIME LATER, AT THE MODEST HOME WHICH OUR HERO'S AUNT SHARES WITH ANNA WATSON...
PETER! AND GWEN!
COME IN! THIS WILL BE THE BEST POSSIBLE MEDICINE FOR ANNA!
HOW IS SHE FEELING, MRS. WATSON?
COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!
MUSTN'T SHOUT LIKE THAT, AUNT MAY! MUSTN'T SAP YOUR STRENGTH!
I FEEL STRONG AS A LION WHEN I SEE YOU, DEAR!
HE HAS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT ON ME!
HE MAKES ME FEEL WEAK AS A KITTEN!
8


YOU TWO HAVE BEEN ...SEEING QUITE A BIT OF EACH OTHER!
NOT NEARLY ENOUGH TO SUIT ME!
OH DEAR! I DIDN'T MEAN TO EMBARRASS YOU, GWENDOLYNE!
NEVER MIND ME, MRS. PARKER!
THE IMPORTANT THING IS... I HOPE YOU DON'T DISAPPROVE!
DISAPPROVE OF ME LATCHING ONTO THE BRIGHTEST, BOUNCIEST, MOST BEAUTIFUL BLONDE IN CREATION?
THAT'LL BE THE DAY!
YOU TWO SOUND AS THOUGH... IT MIGHT BE EVEN MORE SERIOUS... THAN I THOUGHT!
ALL I CAN SAY IS... YOU'VE MADE A SILLY, SENTIMENTAL OLD LADY... VERY, VERY HAPPY!
NO WONDER YOU'RE SO SLIGHTLY SPECIAL, MR. PARKER!
ANYONE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE AN AUNT LIKE THAT!!
FUNNY... I USED TO THINK OF MYSELF AS THE ORIGINAL HARD-LUCK CHARLIE!
BUT NOW... I'M NOT SO SURE!
THAT WAS A LOVELY BOX OF CANDY THEY BROUGHT YOU, MAY!
MAY?!! WHAT IS IT, DEAR? WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU LOOK SO PALE! YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD THEM... TO CALL THE DOCTOR!
NO... I COULDN'T!
I DIDN'T WANT... TO SPOIL... THEIR HAPPINESS!
BUT, ALAS... THE HAPPINESS OF PETER PARKER IS DESTINED TO SUFFER A RUDE INTRUSION IN ANY EVENT!
LET'S ACCOMPANY HIM TO CAMPUS, THE VERY NEXT MORNING...
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION! THE BIGGEST ONE YET!
MUST BE WHAT RANDY WAS TALKING ABOUT!
MATTER OF FACT, THERE HE IS NOW!
HI, PETE! COME ON OVER, MAN!
STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR A LOW RENT DORM
LOW RENT DORM
MUST BE SAVED
IF YOU CAN SPARE THE TIME, PARKER!
9.

WE'RE GONNA CLOSE THIS PLACE DOWN TIGHTER THAN A DRUM TILL WE GET WHAT WE WANT!
HEY, WHOA! SLOW DOWN FOR A SEC, RANDY!
NOW HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO---LINE UP ALL THE CATS YOU KNOW AND GET THEM TO CONTACT ALL OF THEIR FRIENDS!
I FEEL LIKE I JUST ARRIVED SMACK-DAB IN THE MIDDLE OF A HITCH-COCK WHO-DONE-IT!
THEN, AS SOON AS WE HAVE ENOUGH PROTESTERS TO REALLY ROCK THE JOINT, WE MARCH ON THE EX HALL!
I'M STILL IN THE DARK ABOUT ALL THIS!
WE DEMAND LO
LOOK, WHITEY... HOW MUCH DO YOU HAVETA KNOW?
THE SCHOOL'S TURNING THE EX HALL OVER TO THE ESTABLISHMENT... BUT IT BELONGS TO US... AND WE WANT IT!
OKAY, THAT'S YOUR SIDE OF THE STORY! WHAT DOES THE DEAN SAY?
AND YOU JUST KNOW WE'RE GONNA GET IT!
WE AIN'T BUYIN' WHAT HE SAYS!
FROM NOW ON, WE DO THE TALKING!
HEY! WHAT'S THE BIT? WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WE'VE GOT SIGNS ENOUGH FOR EVERYBODY!
ANYONE CAN PAINT A SIGN, MISTER! THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU RIGHT!
THEN GO ON... CUT OUT!
YOU'RE TOO CHICKEN TO GET INVOLVED!
ESU
PHEW!
WELL, BROTHER PARKER, YOU DID IT AGAIN!
MY SYMPATHIES ARE ALL WITH THE KIDS DOWN THERE... BUT JUST BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE ANYONE TO PUSH ME, I FLEW OFF THE HANDLE AGAIN!
I CAN LIVE WITH IT IF JOSH THINKS I'M NOWHERE...
BUT THAT LOOK ON RANDY'S FACE REALLY SHOOK ME UP!
I GUESS THAT'S THE TABLET THEY'RE EXHIBITING HERE!
IF ANYONE EVER DECIPHERS THAT INSCRIPTION, HE'LL HAVE IT MADE FOR LIFE!
BUT IT SURE IS A SHAME THEY'RE TURNING THIS PLACE OVER TO THE ALUMNI AFTER THE EXHIBIT!
WE REALLY NEED A LOW-RENT DORM ON CAMPUS...
...AND THIS WOULD BE THE PERFECT PLACE!
I WONDER WHY THE DEAN'S SO OBSTINATE?
A SHORT TIME LATER...
NO SENSE WAITING ANY LONGER!
WE'VE GOT EVERYONE WE NEED!
EVERY-BODY GRAB A SIGN!
THIS IS IT!
DO OR DIE FOR THE DORM
ESU
PHEW!
10


HEY! DOESN'T ROBERTSON'S FATHER WORK FOR THE DAILY BUGLE?
YOU SAY THAT AGAIN, AND I'LL---!
LOOK... COOL IT, Y'HEAR?
WE GOT A JOB TO DO!
WHO WANTS THE SON OF AN UNCLE TOM MARCHIN' HERE WITH US?
LET'S GO! ON TO THE HALL!
DOOR DIE POWER!!!
ESU PHEW
ESU PHEW!
WE DEMAN LOW REN DOR
ESU PHEW!
RANDY'S A SOUL-BROTHER ...AND DON'T FOR-GET IT!
EVERYONE LISTEN! THE ONLY WAY TO GET THAT DORM IS TO MAKE IT BIG!
WE NEED THE PAPERS --TV..RADIO ...TO COVER THIS THING!
WE GOTTA SHAKE UP THE WHOLE ESTABLISH-MENT!
THAT MEANS WE GOTTA TAKE OVER THE HALL!
DO OR DIE
C'MON! EVERYBODY IN! IF WE MOVE FAST ENOUGH ...IT'LL ALL BE OVER BEFORE THEY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!
ESU PHEW
NOBODY LEAVES TILL WE'VE GOT OURSELVES A DORM!
AT THAT MOMENT, BACK AT THE BUGLE...
SIMMER DOWN, J. J! YOU WANTED A STORY, DIDN'T YOU?
IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO... WATCH TELEVISION ON MY TIME?!!
TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S GOING ON!
IT'S A RIOT ---AT E.S.U.!
I'VE ALREADY DONE IT, MISTER!
WHY DIDN'T SOMEBODY TELL ME? WE'VE GOTTA COVER IT... FAST!
AND NOW... IF YOU'LL STAND ASIDE...THIS IS ONE STORY I'M COVERING MYSELF!
QUICK! ALERT OUR MOBILE NEWS CARS ---SEND OUR BEST MEN---
MY BOY'S A STUDENT ON THAT CAMPUS!
BUT, OTHER EYES ARE ALSO WITNESSING THE PROCEEDINGS... WITH MORE THAN CASUAL INTEREST...
HMMMM... A MOST FORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT!
11.

WILSON! COME HERE!
I BELIEVE I HAVE FOUND THE MOMENT WE WERE SEEKING!

ASSEMBLE OUR BEST MEN!
AS SOON AS IT GETS DARK... WE MOVE!

WHILE, BACK AT E.S.U., THINGS GROW TENSER BY THE MINUTE...
LOOK, WHATEVER YOU'RE DEMONSTRATIN' ABOUT AIN'T NO CONCERN OF OURS!
ALL I KNOW IS WE'RE PAID TO GUARD THIS TABLET... AND NOBODY GETS NEAR IT!
HEY, GO EASY, MISTER! THEY'RE NOT PUBLIC ENEMIES!
KEEP OUTTA THIS, KID! WE'VE GOT A JOB TO DO!

SAY! THOSE PRIVATE GUARDS GAVE ME AN IDEA!
I DON'T BUY IT, JOSH! THAT'S PLAIN STEALING!
IF WE COULD GET OUR HANDS ON THAT TABLET, THEN THEY'D HAVE TO LISTEN TO US!
LOOK, MAN-- ...YOU HEARD WHAT THEY CALLED YOUR FATHER!
DON'T DO IT, JOSH!
RANDY'S RIGHT... AND YOU KNOW IT!

NOW MOVE ON, ALL OF YOU!
HEY... WHAT'RE YOU DOING? PUT THAT GUN AWAY!
YOU'RE NOT SCARIN' US, BIG MAN!
RELAX! IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO HANDLE 'EM!
FIRE THAT CANNON AND THEY'LL TEAR THIS PLACE APART!
NOBODY'S FIRING ANYTHING... JUST BREAK IT UP!

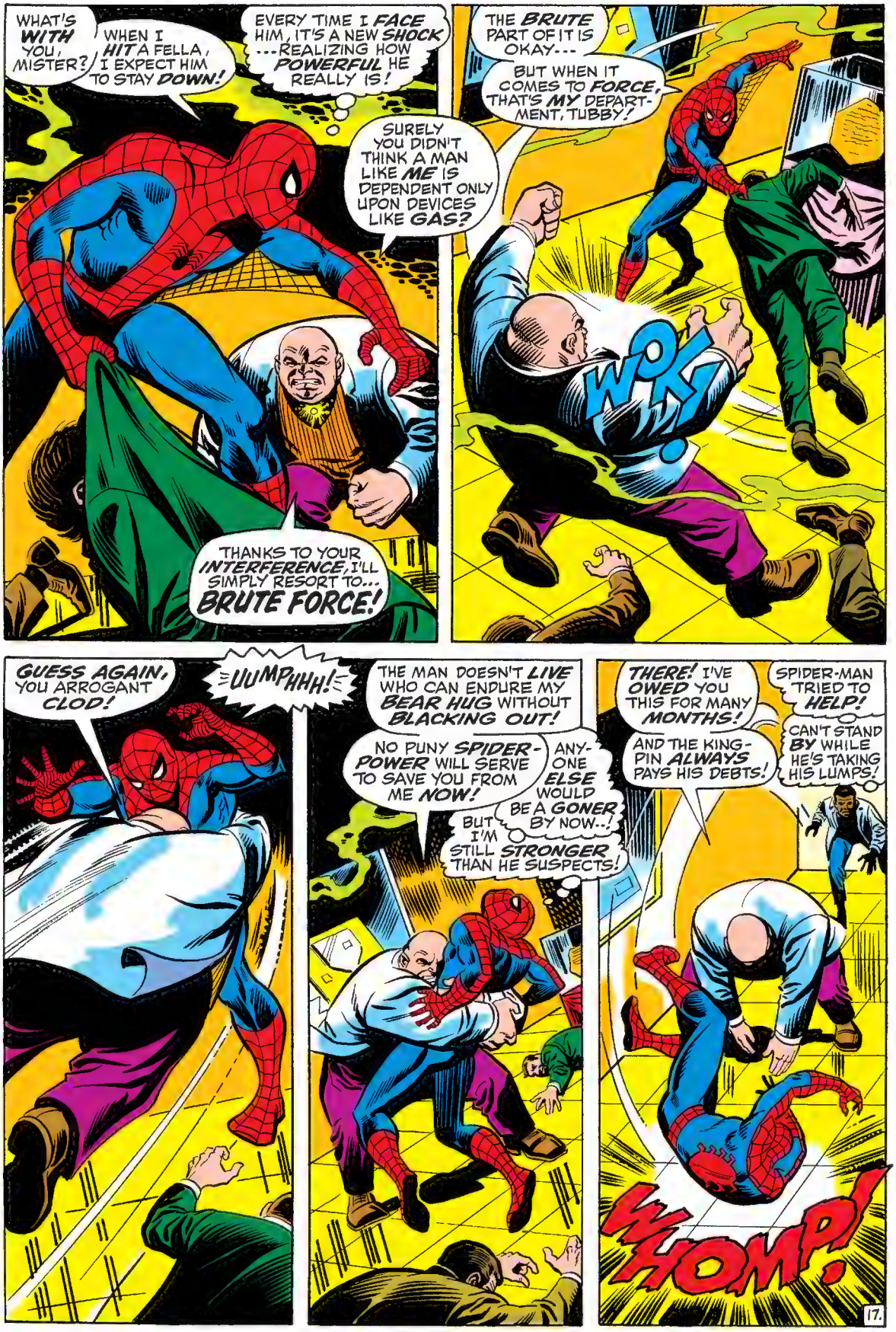
EVERYONE'S TOO UPTIGHT! IN A SPOT LIKE THIS, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!
BUT, WHAT CAN I... WHAT CAN ANYBODY ...DO ABOUT IT NOW?
IT'LL BE A MIRACLE IF NOBODY GETS HURT BEFORE IT'S OVER!
AT A TIME LIKE THIS... EVEN SPIDEY WOULD BE HELPLESS!

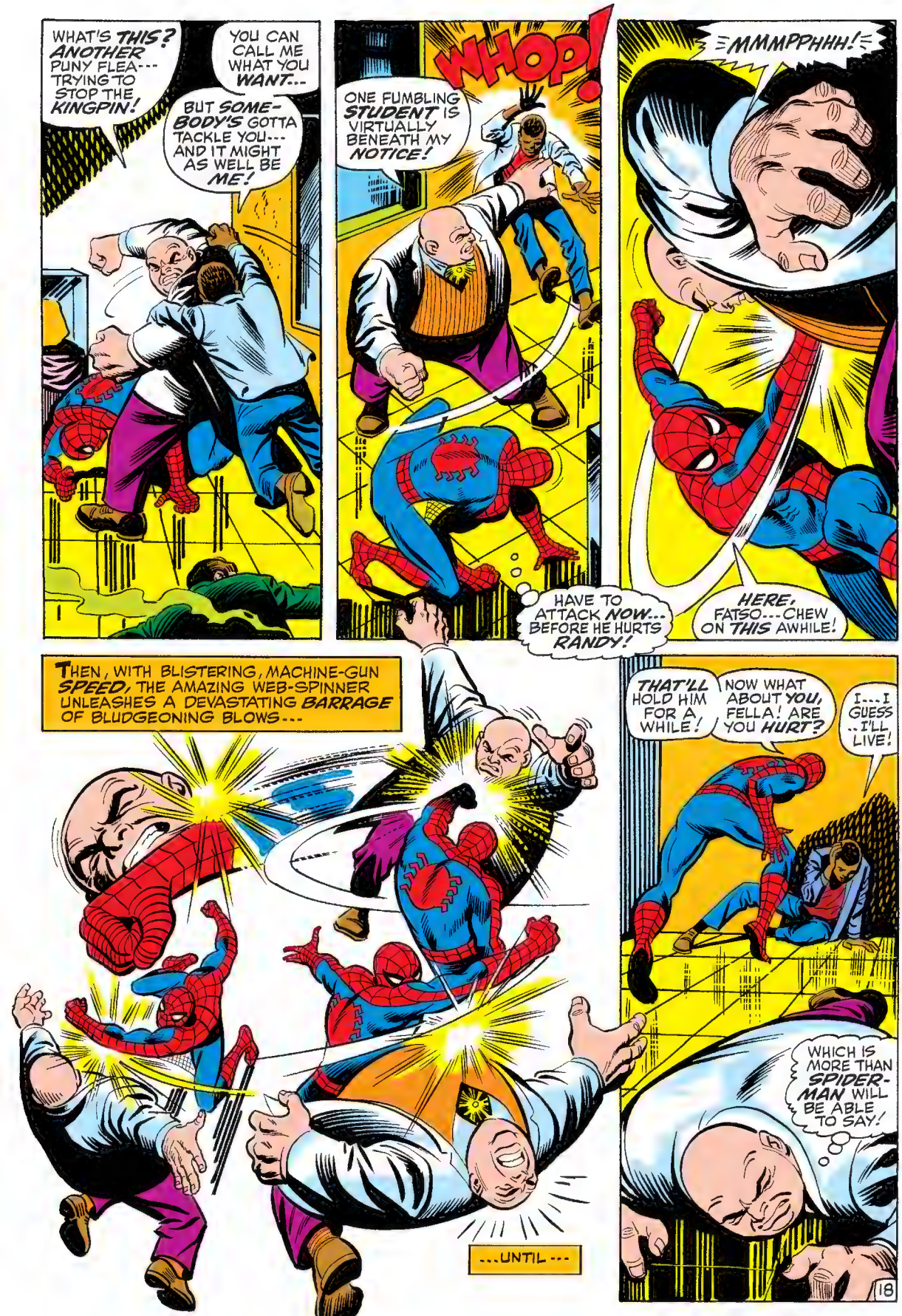
BUT, AS LONG AS I'M HERE... THERE'S NO SENSE WASTING TIME...
...NOT WHEN I CAN BE GETTING SOME EXCLUSIVE PIX... TO SELL TO JOLLY JONAH!
AND BOY... CAN MRS. PARKER'S NEPHEW USE THE BREAD!
BUT, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BUILDING...
STOP RIGHT HERE!
THEY'RE ALL TOO BUSY TO NOTICE US!
SO THIS IS WHAT A COLLEGE LOOKS LIKE!
BIG DEAL!
TAKE YOUR PLACES, ALL OF YOU!
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR OUR LITTLE DIVERSION TO BEGIN!
AND, WHEN IT DOES, YOU'LL GO INTO ACTION LIKE A WELL-OILED MACHINE...
...OR ELSE YOU'LL ANSWER TO ME!
THAT'S IT! EVERYONE WILL THINK THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE RESPONSIBLE!
FLOOM!
NOW! WHILE EVERYONE RUSHES TO CHECK THE EXPLOSION, WE'LL HAVE A CLEAR FIELD FOR OURSELVES!
THE TABLET WILL BE SAFELY IN MY HANDS BEFORE THE FLAMES DIE DOWN!
THUMP!
THOOM!
13

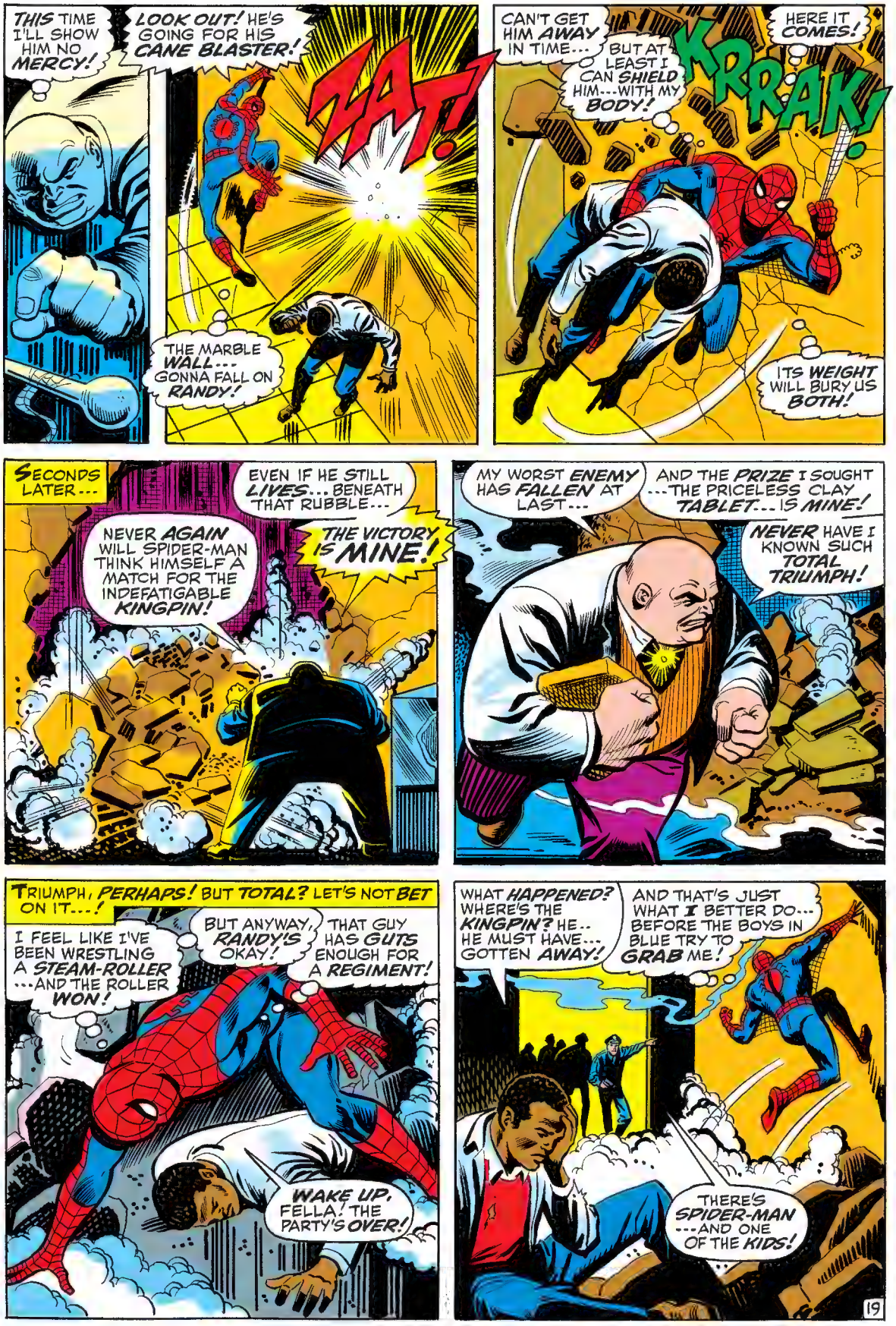
KRAK!
GET BACK... ALL OF YOU!
STAY OUT OF MY WAY, AND NO ONE WILL BE HARMED!
WH...WHO'S THAT?
I DON'T KNOW... ...BUT HE TORE THE DOOR OFF ITS HINGES... BARE-HANDED!!
I RECOGNIZE HIM...!
HE'S THE KING-PIN!
BUT... WHAT'S HE DOING HERE??
STAND ASIDE, SONNY!
YOU CAN HAVE YER KINDERGARDEN BACK LATER ON... WHEN WE'RE DONE WITH IT!
TO THE EXHIBITION CHAMBER...QUICKLY!
WHEN I GIVE THE WORD... PREPARE TO USE YOUR GAS MASKS!
THUMP! THPOOM!
THE KINGPIN!!
WITH HIM ON THE SCENE... NOBODY'S SAFE!
BUT, WHERE DOES HE FIGURE IN??
AND WHY DID HE MENTION GAS MASKS?
HE'S COMING TOWARDS ME!
I'VE GOT TO ACT LIKE I'M NOBODY SPECIAL!
HEY! WATCH IT, MISTER! WHERE DO YOU THINK..??
SHUT UP! I'VE NO TIME TO WASTE ON JUVENILES!
THUD!
STRANGE! FOR A MOMENT THERE... I GOT A FEELING OF POWER...OF RAW STRENGTH...
FAR MORE THAN I'D EXPECT FROM A CALLOW, COWERING STUDENT!
I'M TOO KEYED-UP! I'M STARTING TO IMAGINE THINGS!
HOW CAN ANY SCRAWNY, SIMPERING YOUTH BE WORTHY OF THE KINGPIN'S ATTENTION!
THAT LOOK HE GAVE ME... WHAT DID IT MEAN?
THE TABLET! IT CAN'T BE MUCH FURTHER!

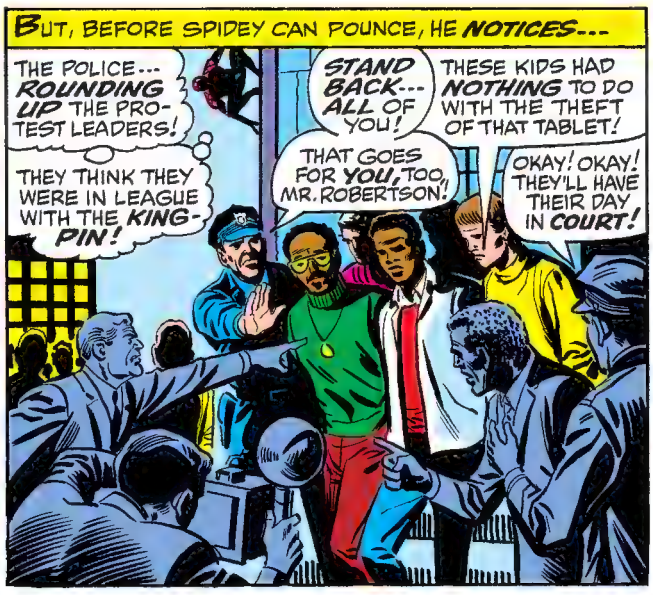
HOLD IT! KEEP THAT GUY AWAY FROM HERE!
RANDY... NO!!
HE DOESN'T REALIZE THE DANGER!
HE'LL FOUL UP THE WHOLE DEMONSTRATION!
NOW I'VE GOT TO CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN!
YOU YOUNG FOOLS HAVE ALREADY SERVED MY PURPOSE!
NOW STAND ASIDE... IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIVES!
WE'VE GOTTA DO IT, RANDY!
THEY'RE ARMED!
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED IT SOONER..!
IT MUST BE THE TABLET HE'S AFTER!
AND, IF I KNOW THE KINGPIN...
HE'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET IT!
THE KIDS SEE ME! THEY THINK I'M AIMING TO PUT THEM DOWN!
LOOK! FIRST THE KINGPIN... NOW SPIDER-MAN!
BUT THEY WON'T STOP US NOW!
SLURP!
ESU PHEW!
HAVEN'T TIME TO ARGUE WITH THEM...
NOT WITH THAT OVER-STUFFED KILLER ON THE LOOSE JUST AHEAD!
STAY OUT OF THIS, GANG!
FROM HERE ON IN, IT'S BETWEEN THE KINGPIN AND ME!
WE DEMAND LOUIE
15

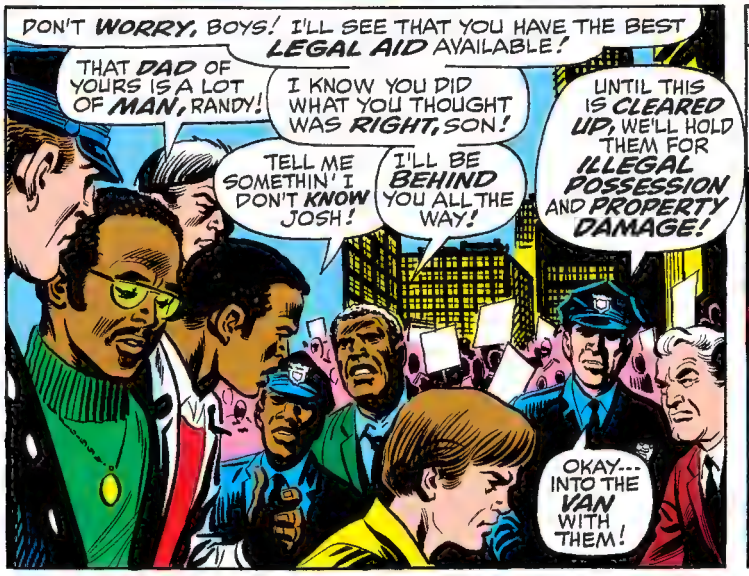
BUT DON'T JUST STAND THERE!
GO ON... MOVE! CLEAR THE HALL!
WARN THE POLICE THAT THE TABLET'S IN DANGER!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LISTENED TO ANYONE!
I SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO STOP THE KINGPIN!
YEAH... AND WE'D HAVE BEEN PICKIN' UP YOUR PIECES!
WHILE OUTSIDE THE BUILDING...
DON'T WORRY, MR. ROBERTSON! WE'LL SOON HAVE EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL!
DON'T WORRY? WHILE MY SON IS IN THERE?
AND, AT THE TABLET DISPLAY ROOM...
IT'S THE KINGPIN... LEADING HIS HOODS!
THEY'RE AFTER THE TABLET!
AND THEY'RE ALL WEARING ...GAS MASKS!
DON'T MOVE! I'LL GIVE THE ORDERS NOW!
JUST GOT MY CAMERA SET UP IN TIME!
HE'S STARTING TO FIRE GAS PELLETS!
BUT, IT'S A BIG ROOM... IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF GAS TO DO THE TRICK!
AND I'LL MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T FIRE ANOTHER BURST!
THWK!
WHA...?!
SORRY, CHUBBS!
IF YOU WANT THAT TABLET, YOU'LL HAVE TO GET IT THE HARD WAY!
SPIDER-MAN!
16

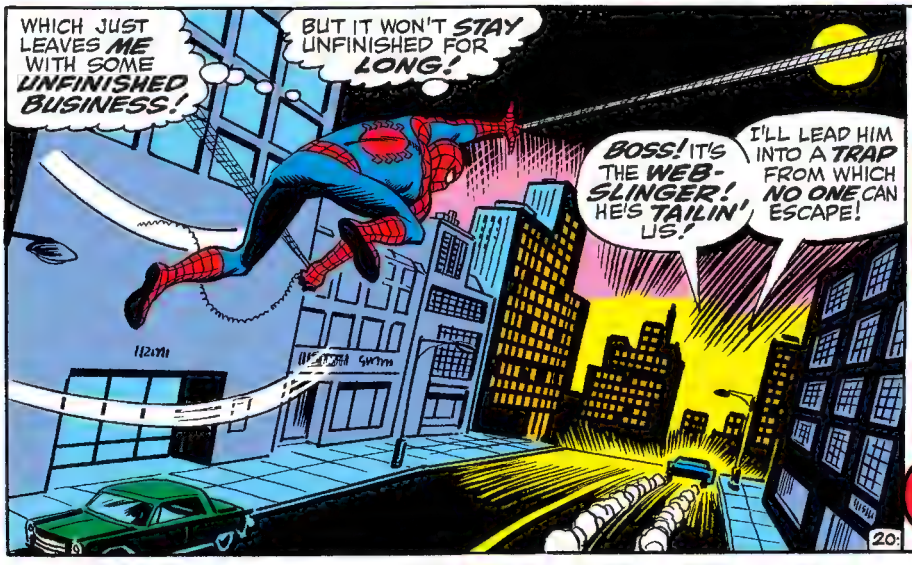

WHAT'S WITH YOU, MISTER?
WHEN I HIT A FELLA, I EXPECT HIM TO STAY DOWN!
EVERY TIME I FACE HIM, IT'S A NEW SHOCK ---REALIZING HOW POWERFUL HE REALLY IS!
SURELY YOU DIDN'T THINK A MAN LIKE ME IS DEPENDENT ONLY UPON DEVICES LIKE GAS?
THANKS TO YOUR INTERFERENCE, I'LL SIMPLY RESORT TO... BRUTE FORCE!
THE BRUTE PART OF IT IS OKAY---
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO FORCE, THAT'S MY DEPARTMENT, TUBBY!
WOK!
GUESS AGAIN, YOU ARROGANT CLOD!
UUMPHHH!
THE MAN DOESN'T LIVE WHO CAN ENDURE MY BEAR HUG WITHOUT BLACKING OUT!
NO PUNY SPIDER-POWER WILL SERVE TO SAVE YOU FROM ME NOW!
ANY-ONE ELSE WOULD BE A GONER BY NOW..!
BUT I'M STILL STRONGER THAN HE SUSPECTS!
THERE! I'VE OWED YOU THIS FOR MANY MONTHS!
AND THE KING-PIN ALWAYS PAYS HIS DEBTS!
SPIDER-MAN TRIED TO HELP!
CAN'T STAND BY WHILE HE'S TAKING HIS LUMPS!
WHOMP!


WHAT'S THIS? ANOTHER PUNY FLEA--- TRYING TO STOP THE KINGPIN!
YOU CAN CALL ME WHAT YOU WANT...
BUT SOMEBODY'S GOTTA TACKLE YOU--- AND IT MIGHT AS WELL BE ME!
WHOP!
ONE FUMBLING STUDENT IS VIRTUALLY BENEATH MY NOTICE!
HAVE TO ATTACK NOW... BEFORE HE HURTS RANDY!
MMMPPHHH!
HERE, FATSO--- CHEW ON THIS AWHILE!
THEN, WITH BLISTERING, MACHINE-GUN SPEED, THE AMAZING WEB-SPINNER UNLEASHES A DEVASTATING BARRAGE OF BLUDGEONING BLOWS---
...UNTIL ---
THAT'LL HOLD HIM FOR A WHILE!
NOW WHAT ABOUT YOU, FELLA! ARE YOU HURT?
I...I GUESS ..I'LL LIVE!
WHICH IS MORE THAN SPIDER-MAN WILL BE ABLE TO SAY!


THIS TIME I'LL SHOW HIM NO MERCY!
LOOK OUT! HE'S GOING FOR HIS CANE BLASTER!
ZAT!
THE MARBLE WALL--- GONNA FALL ON RANDY!
CAN'T GET HIM AWAY IN TIME---
BUT AT LEAST I CAN SHIELD HIM---WITH MY BODY!
HERE IT COMES!
KRRAK!
ITS WEIGHT WILL BURY US BOTH!
SECONDS LATER---
EVEN IF HE STILL LIVES... BENEATH THAT RUBBLE---
NEVER AGAIN WILL SPIDER-MAN THINK HIMSELF A MATCH FOR THE INDEFATIGABLE KINGPIN!
THE VICTORY IS MINE!
MY WORST ENEMY HAS FALLEN AT LAST---
AND THE PRIZE I SOUGHT ---THE PRICELESS CLAY TABLET--- IS MINE!
NEVER HAVE I KNOWN SUCH TOTAL TRIUMPH!
TRIUMPH, PERHAPS! BUT TOTAL? LET'S NOT BET ON IT---!
I FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN WRESTLING A STEAM-ROLLER ---AND THE ROLLER WON!
BUT ANYWAY, RANDY'S OKAY!
THAT GUY HAS GUTS ENOUGH FOR A REGIMENT!
WAKE UP, FELLA! THE PARTY'S OVER!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S THE KINGPIN? HE.. HE MUST HAVE... GOTTEN AWAY!
AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I BETTER DO... BEFORE THE BOYS IN BLUE TRY TO GRAB ME!
THERE'S SPIDER-MAN ---AND ONE OF THE KIDS!


BUT, BEFORE SPIDEY CAN POUNCE, HE NOTICES...
THE POLICE... ROUNDING UP THE PRO-TEST LEADERS!
THEY THINK THEY WERE IN LEAGUE WITH THE KING-PIN!
STAND BACK... ALL OF YOU!
THESE KIDS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE THEFT OF THAT TABLET!
THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO, MR. ROBERTSON!
OKAY! OKAY! THEY'LL HAVE THEIR DAY IN COURT!


DON'T WORRY, BOYS! I'LL SEE THAT YOU HAVE THE BEST LEGAL AID AVAILABLE!
THAT DAD OF YOURS IS A LOT OF MAN, RANDY!
I KNOW YOU DID WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS RIGHT, SON!
TELL ME SOMETHIN' I DON'T KNOW JOSH!
I'LL BE BEHIND YOU ALL THE WAY!
UNTIL THIS IS CLEARED UP, WE'LL HOLD THEM FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION AND PROPERTY DAMAGE!
OKAY... INTO THE VAN WITH THEM!


WHICH JUST LEAVES ME WITH SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!
BUT IT WON'T STAY UNFINISHED FOR LONG!
BOSS! IT'S THE WEB-SLINGER! HE'S TAILIN' US!
I'LL LEAD HIM INTO A TRAP FROM WHICH NO ONE CAN ESCAPE!

NEXT:

IN THE KING-PIN'S CLUTCHES!

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
69
FEB
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
ROMITA
MISSION: CRUSH THE KINGPIN!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
MISSION: CRUSH THE KINGPIN!
PRODUCED BY:
STAN (THE MAN) LEE, SCRIPT!
JOHN (RING-A-DING) ROMITA, STORYBOARDS!
JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY, ILLUSTRATION!
SAM (SLEEPY) ROSEN, LETTERER!
THE KINGPIN'S HIDING SOMEWHERE IN THIS AREA!
AND, WITH MY SPIDER SENSE, IT WON'T TAKE LONG TO FIND HIM!

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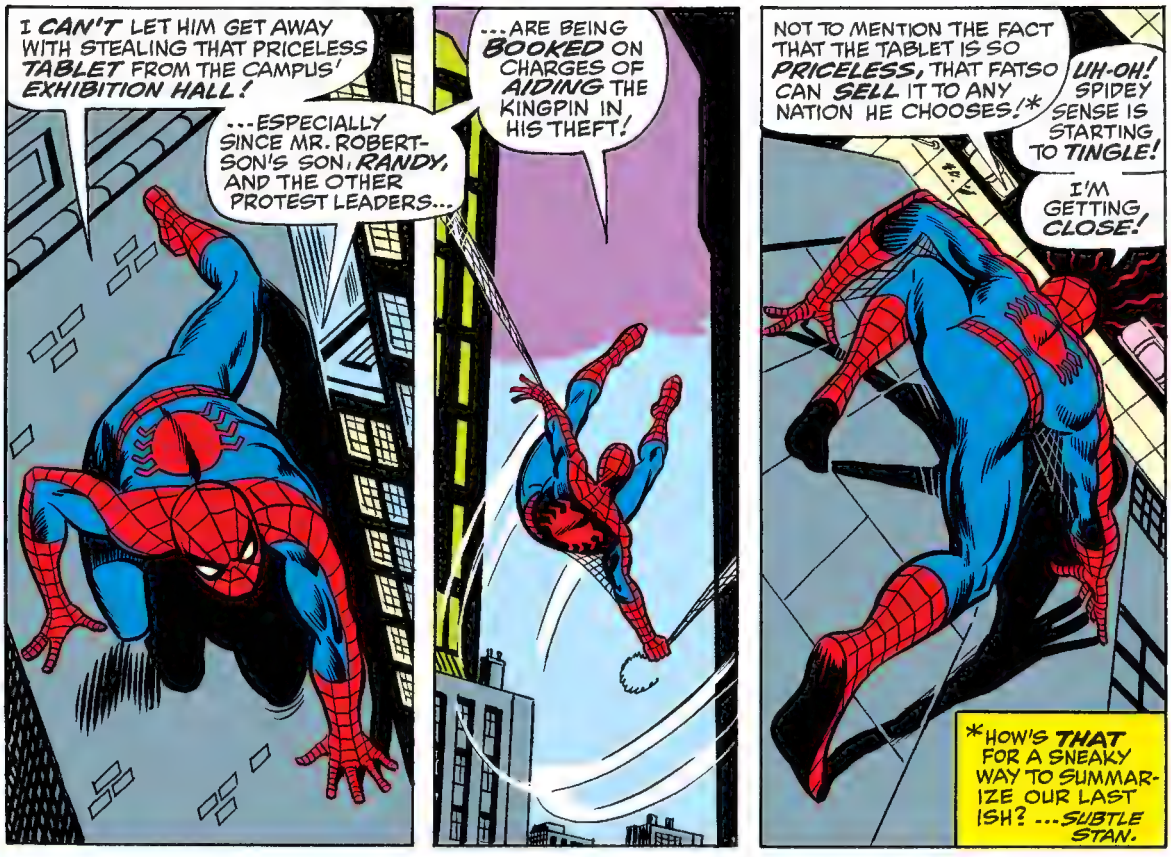
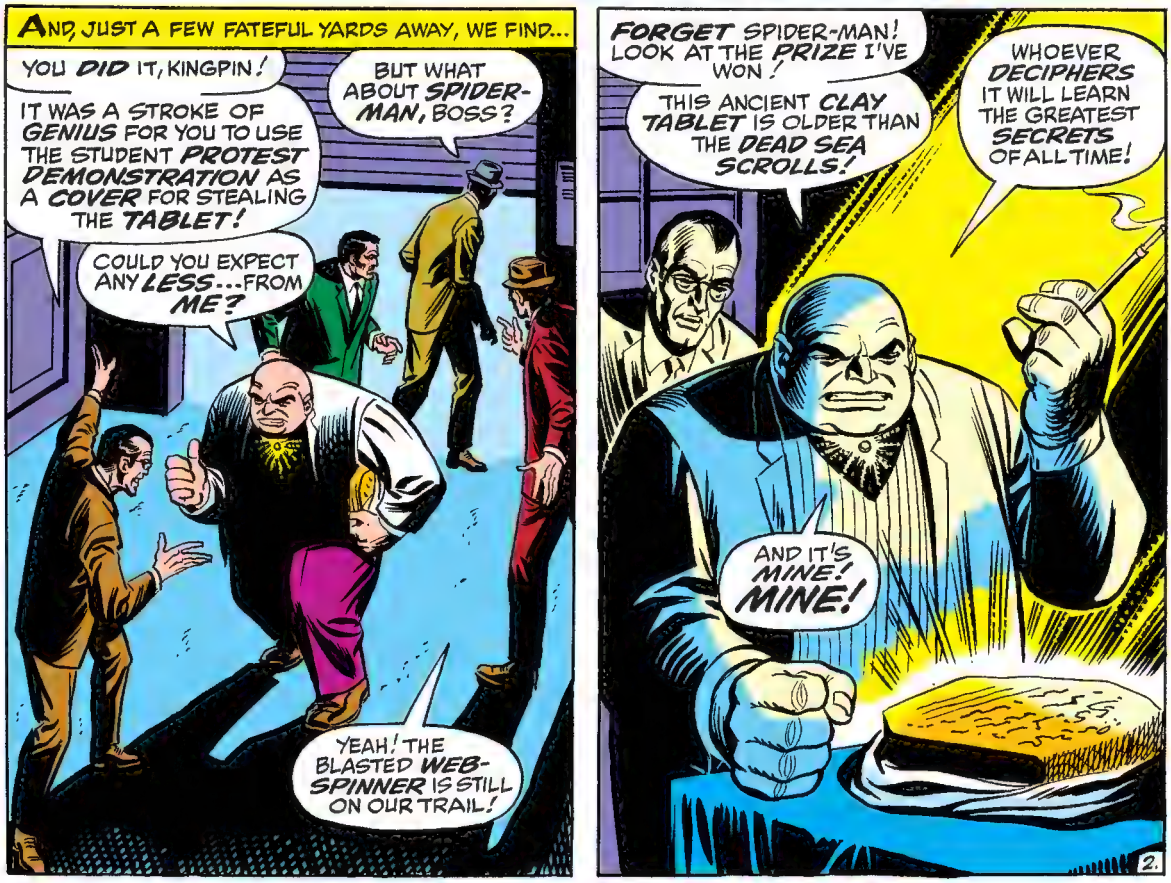
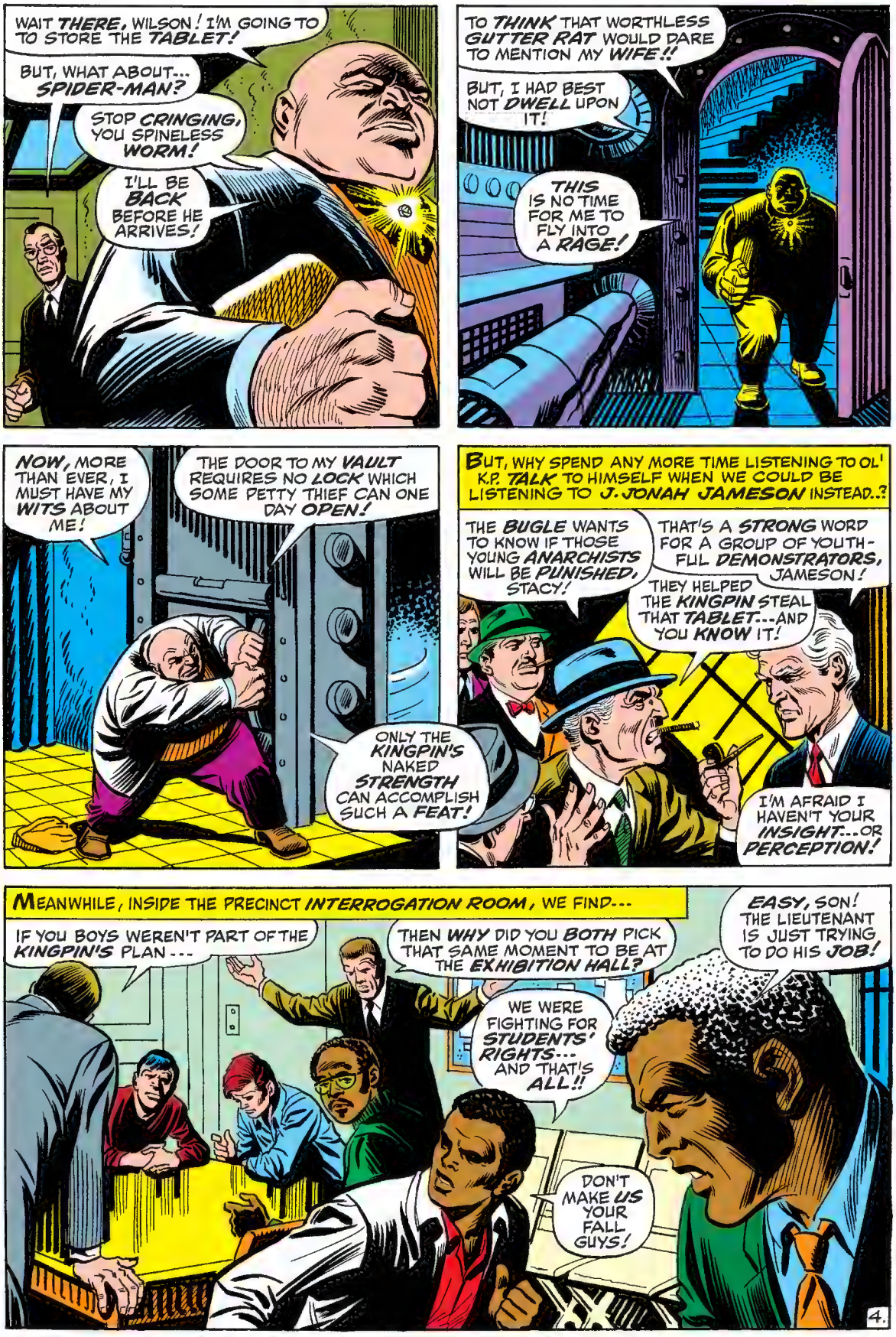

I CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY WITH STEALING THAT PRICELESS TABLET FROM THE CAMPUS' EXHIBITION HALL!
...ESPECIALLY SINCE MR. ROBERTSON'S SON, RANDY, AND THE OTHER PROTEST LEADERS...
...ARE BEING BOOKED ON CHARGES OF AIDING THE KINGPIN IN HIS THEFT!
NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT THE TABLET IS SO PRICELESS, THAT FATSO CAN SELL IT TO ANY NATION HE CHOOSES!*
UH-OH! SPIDEY SENSE IS STARTING TO TINGLE!
I'M GETTING CLOSE!
*HOW'S THAT FOR A SNEAKY WAY TO SUMMARIZE OUR LAST ISH? ...SUBTLE STAN.


AND, JUST A FEW FATEFUL YARDS AWAY, WE FIND...
YOU DID IT, KINGPIN!
IT WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS FOR YOU TO USE THE STUDENT PROTEST DEMONSTRATION AS A COVER FOR STEALING THE TABLET!
BUT WHAT ABOUT SPIDER-MAN, BOSS?
COULD YOU EXPECT ANY LESS...FROM ME?
YEAH! THE BLASTED WEB-SPINNER IS STILL ON OUR TRAIL!
FORGET SPIDER-MAN! LOOK AT THE PRIZE I'VE WON!
THIS ANCIENT CLAY TABLET IS OLDER THAN THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS!
WHOEVER DECIPHERS IT WILL LEARN THE GREATEST SECRETS OF ALL TIME!
AND IT'S MINE! MINE!

BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WHY DID YOU ALLOW SPIDER-MAN TO FOLLOW US??
BECAUSE I WANT HIM TO FIND ME!
HOW ELSE CAN I DESTROY HIM?
IT WILL SAVE ME THE TROUBLE OF HUNTING HIM!
THE FOOL IS AS YET UNAWARE... THAT I AM HIS MASTER!
BUT THE WEB-SLINGER IS TRICKY...
WHAT DOES IT MATTER? AM I NOT MORE POWERFUL?
SPIDER-MAN WOULDN'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST THE BOSS!
RIGHT! HE'LL MAKE MINCE-MEAT OUTTA HIM!
THE KINGPIN AIN'T SCARED A NOBODY!
...EXCEPT HIS MISSUS!
I HEARD THAT!
WHA... WHAT'D I SAY, BOSS??!
YOU MENTIONED MY WIFE!
ZAP!
NOBODY MENTIONS HER... EVER... DO YOU HEAR??
NOBODY!
GET RID OF HIM! HE'S WASHED UP HERE!
HE'S LUCKY... I LET HIM LIVE!
3.


WAIT THERE, WILSON! I'M GOING TO TO STORE THE TABLET!
BUT, WHAT ABOUT... SPIDER-MAN?
STOP CRINGING, YOU SPINELESS WORM!
I'LL BE BACK BEFORE HE ARRIVES!
TO THINK THAT WORTHLESS GUTTER RAT WOULD DARE TO MENTION MY WIFE!!
BUT, I HAD BEST NOT DWELL UPON IT!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR ME TO FLY INTO A RAGE!
NOW, MORE THAN EVER, I MUST HAVE MY WITS ABOUT ME!
THE DOOR TO MY VAULT REQUIRES NO LOCK WHICH SOME PETTY THIEF CAN ONE DAY OPEN!
ONLY THE KINGPIN'S NAKED STRENGTH CAN ACCOMPLISH SUCH A FEAT!
BUT, WHY SPEND ANY MORE TIME LISTENING TO OL' K.P. TALK TO HIMSELF WHEN WE COULD BE LISTENING TO J. JONAH JAMESON INSTEAD..?
THE BUGLE WANTS TO KNOW IF THOSE YOUNG ANARCHISTS WILL BE PUNISHED, STACY!
THAT'S A STRONG WORD FOR A GROUP OF YOUTHFUL DEMONSTRATORS, JAMESON!
THEY HELPED THE KINGPIN STEAL THAT TABLET...AND YOU KNOW IT!
I'M AFRAID I HAVEN'T YOUR INSIGHT...OR PERCEPTION!
MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE PRECINCT INTERROGATION ROOM, WE FIND---
IF YOU BOYS WEREN'T PART OF THE KINGPIN'S PLAN ---
THEN WHY DID YOU BOTH PICK THAT SAME MOMENT TO BE AT THE EXHIBITION HALL?
WE WERE FIGHTING FOR STUDENTS' RIGHTS... AND THAT'S ALL!!
EASY, SON! THE LIEUTENANT IS JUST TRYING TO DO HIS JOB!
DON'T MAKE US YOUR FALL GUYS!
4.

WHAT ABOUT SPIDER-MAN, RANDY? WHERE DOES HE FIT INTO ALL OF THIS?
I TOLD YOU, DAD! HE FOUGHT THE KINGPIN! HE SAVED MY LIFE!
OKAY, THEN! LETS GET BACK TO YOU..!
HOW'D YOU GET MIXED-UP IN THIS WHOLE THING?
I DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT, DAD---LIKE YOU ALWAYS SAID I SHOULD!
WE WANT THE HALL CONVERTED TO A LOW-RENT DORM---FOR NEEDY STUDENTS!
BUT THE DEAN WOULDN'T LISTEN TO US!
A PROTEST IS ONE THING!
BUT, THE DAM-AGE YOU CAUSED..!
BUT DON'T WORRY, SON! YOUR MOM AND I WILL STAND BEHIND YOU!
WE WON'T LET YOU DOWN---WHEN YOU NEED US!
I JUST HAVE TO FIGURE OUT ---HOW TO BREAK IT TO HER!
YOU'RE TALKING---AS THOUGH I DID ---SOMETHING AWFUL!
DON'T YOU SEE? CAN'T YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND? I HAVE TO BE TOUGHER--- I HAVE TO BE MORE MILITANT ---BECAUSE OF YOU!
YOU'VE BECOME PART OF THE ESTABLISHMENT--- THE WHITE MAN'S ESTABLISHMENT!
I'VE GOTTA LIVE THAT DOWN!
BUT ISN'T THIS WHAT WE ALL WANT--- WHAT WE'RE ALL FIGHTING FOR, BOY?
TO MAKE IT ON OUR OWN? TO PROVE WE'RE AS GOOD--- OR BETTER---THAN ANY-ONE??
I DUNNO! I DUNNO WHAT TO THINK!
LOOK, MAN---MAYBE YOU'RE AN OKAY CAT--- BUT WE GOTTA DO THINGS OUR WAY!
WE AIN'T NEVER GONNA GET NOWHERE--- UNTIL WE KINDA SHAKE WHITEY UP A LITTLE!
HOW'S A MAN TO KNOW--- WHAT'S RIGHT?
I WISH--- I COULD ANSWER THAT, SON!
LISTEN! SOMETHING'S GOING ON--- OUTSIDE!
COOK AN EGG--- COOK YOUR GOOSE! TURN THE DEMONSTRATORS LOOSE!
C'MON, BREAK IT UP---BREAK IT UP!
GOWAN HOME, KIDS! THE PARTY'S OVER!
5

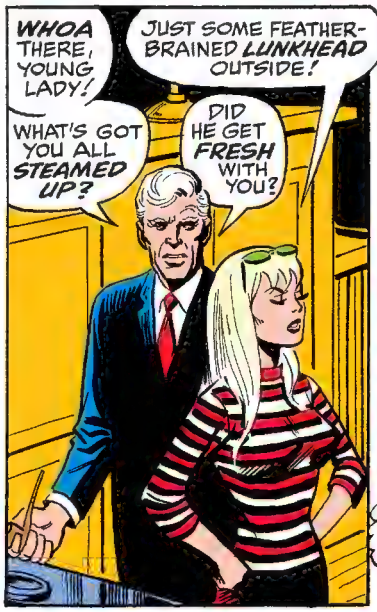
THIS WON'T HELP! YOU'RE ALL MAKING THINGS WORSE!
GETTING OURSELVES ARRESTED WON'T GIVE US THE LOW-RENT DORM WE NEED!
OKAY, BEAUTIFUL! GOT ANY BETTER IDEAS?
HEY! IT'S GWEN STACY!
WHERE'S YOUR CHICKEN BOY FRIEND, LADY?
GET OUR LEADERS
GO
HE HASN'T THE GUTS TO TAKE A STAND WITH US!

YOU SAID PETER PARKER DOESN'T HAVE GUTS?!!
YEAH... IT'S PARKER I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!
...AND YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!

YOU CRUMMY, DIM-WITTED LOUDMOUTH!
AND STILL MAKE TEN OF YOU!
HE COULD BE HALF THE MAN HE IS...

POLICE
SAY, TAKE IT EASY, LITTLE GIRL!
YOU DON'T WANNA BE ACCUSED OF CIVILIAN BRUTALITY!
OH, GWEN STACY! I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU!
I'M GOING IN...TO SEE MY FATHER!

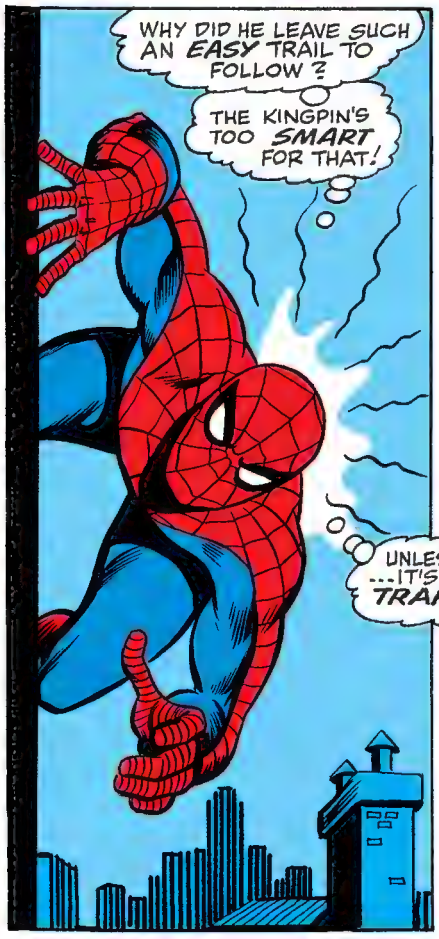
GWEN! I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE HERE!
WHY NOT? I MAY BE YOUR DAUGHTER... BUT I'M STILL A CO-ED AT E.S.U.!


WHOA THERE, YOUNG LADY!
JUST SOME FEATHER-BRAINED LUNKHEAD OUTSIDE!
WHAT'S GOT YOU ALL STEAMED UP?
DID HE GET FRESH WITH YOU?

HIM? HE WOULDN'T DARE!
NO... HE SAID SOME ROTTEN THINGS... ABOUT PETER!
ARE YOU UPSET... BECAUSE YOU THINK THEY MAY BE TRUE?
I... WISH I KNEW!

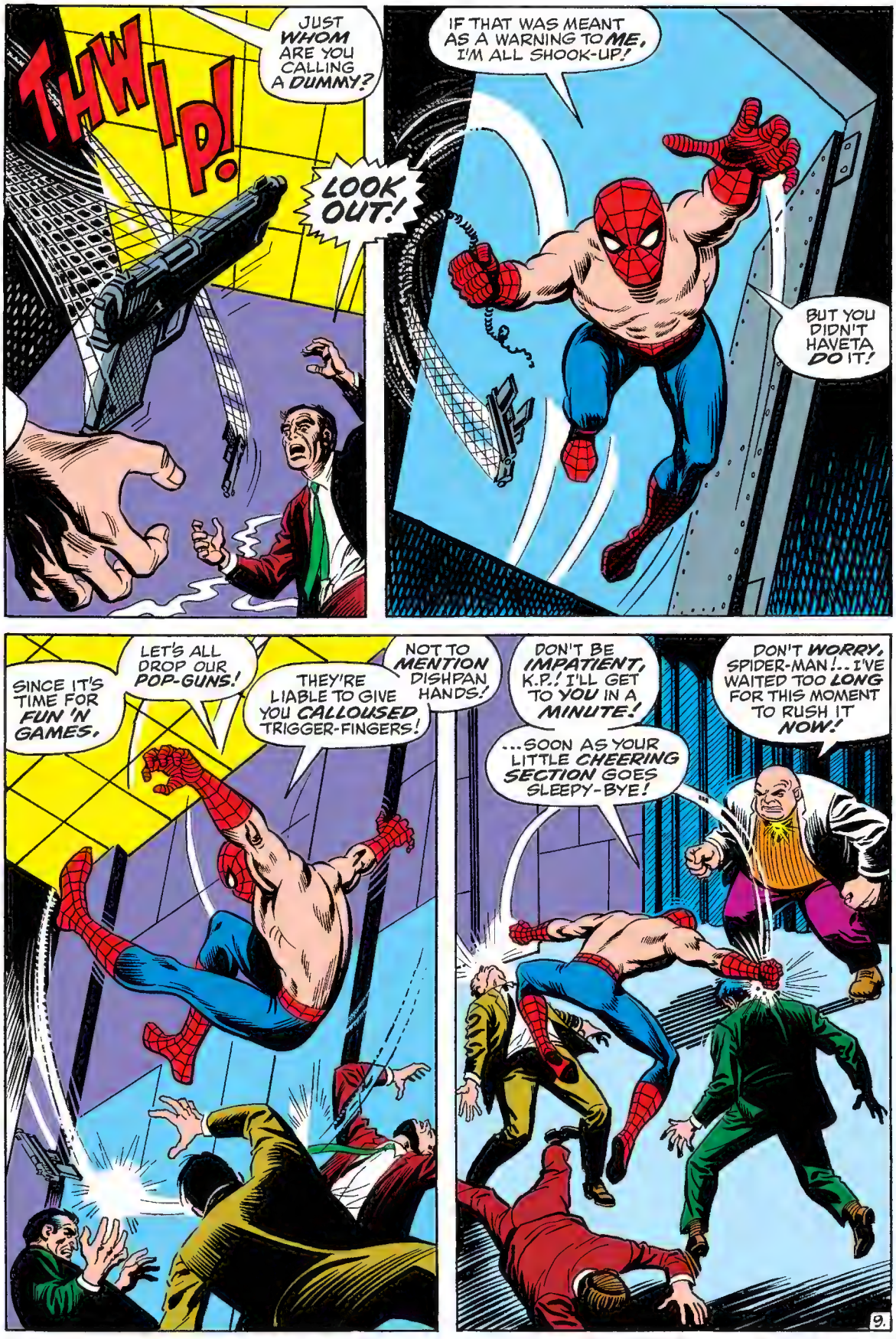
BUT NOW, IT'S WEB-SLINGING TIME AGAIN...
THIS IS IT!
THE WAY I'M TINGLING...
HE HAS TO BE IN THERE!

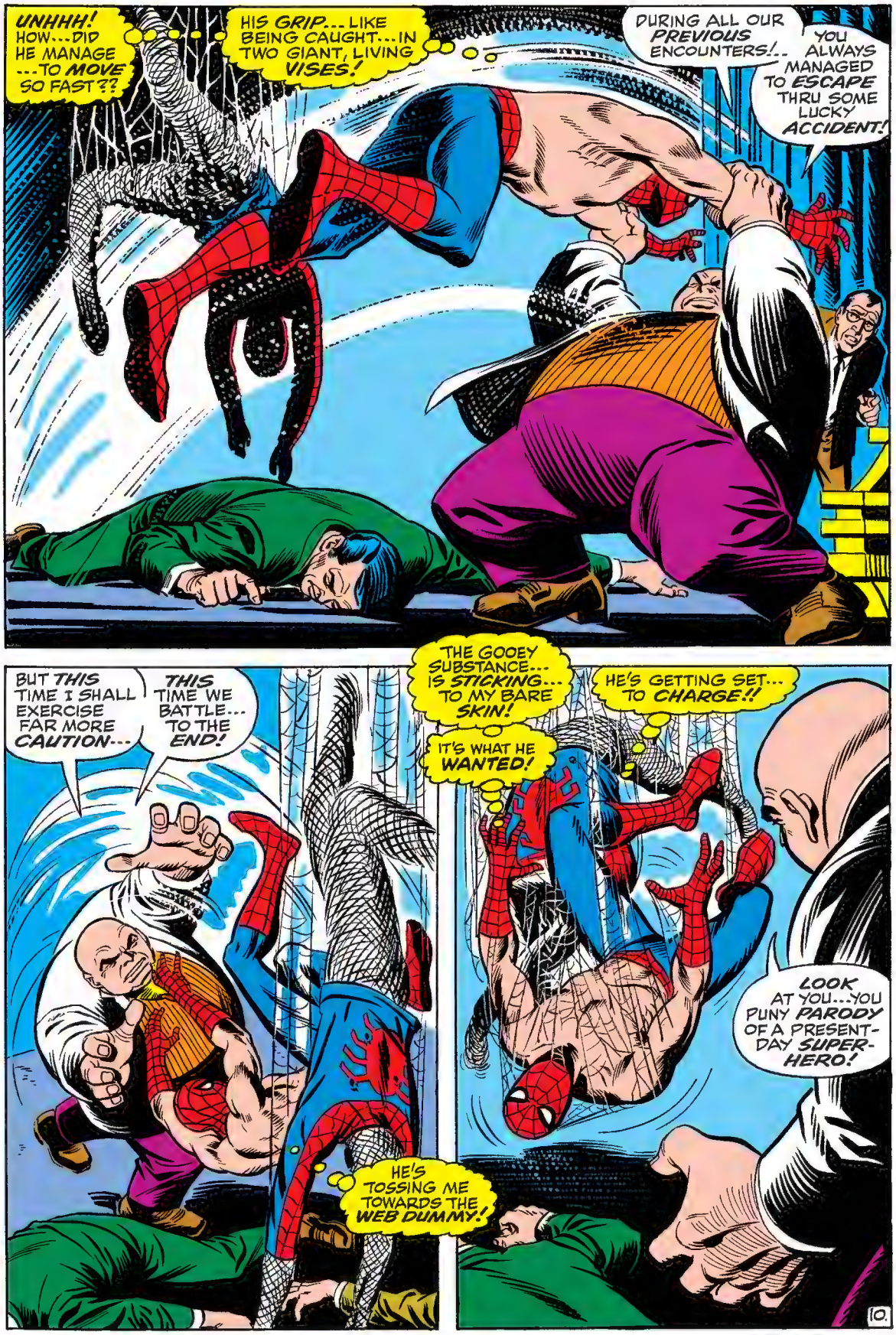
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN STEEL SHUTTERS TO...
NO! WAIT..!!
MY SPIDEY SENSE IS TINGLING TOO VIOLENTLY!
SOMETHING'S WRONG!

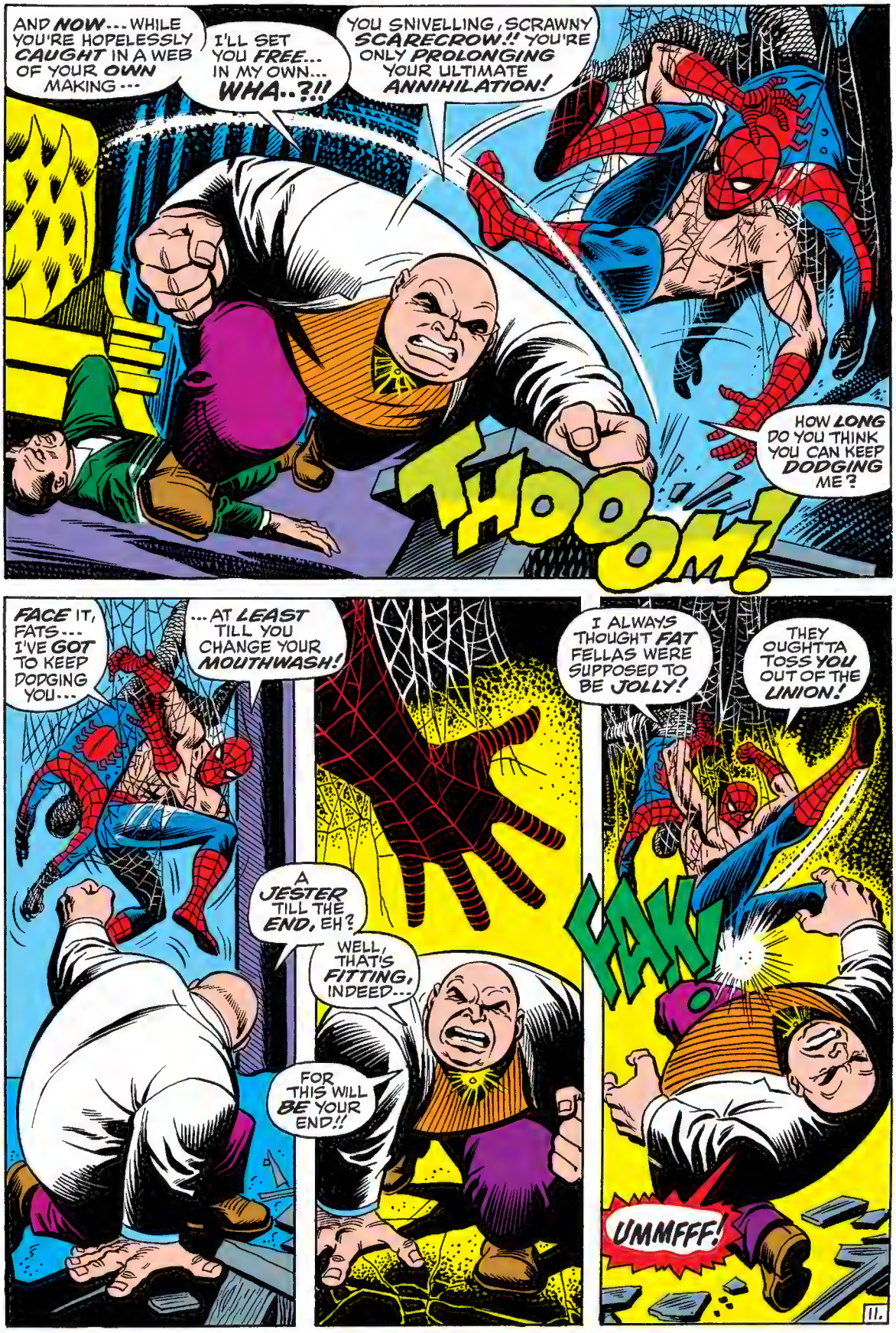

WHY DID HE LEAVE SUCH AN EASY TRAIL TO FOLLOW?
THE KINGPIN'S TOO SMART FOR THAT!
UNLESS ...IT'S A TRAP!

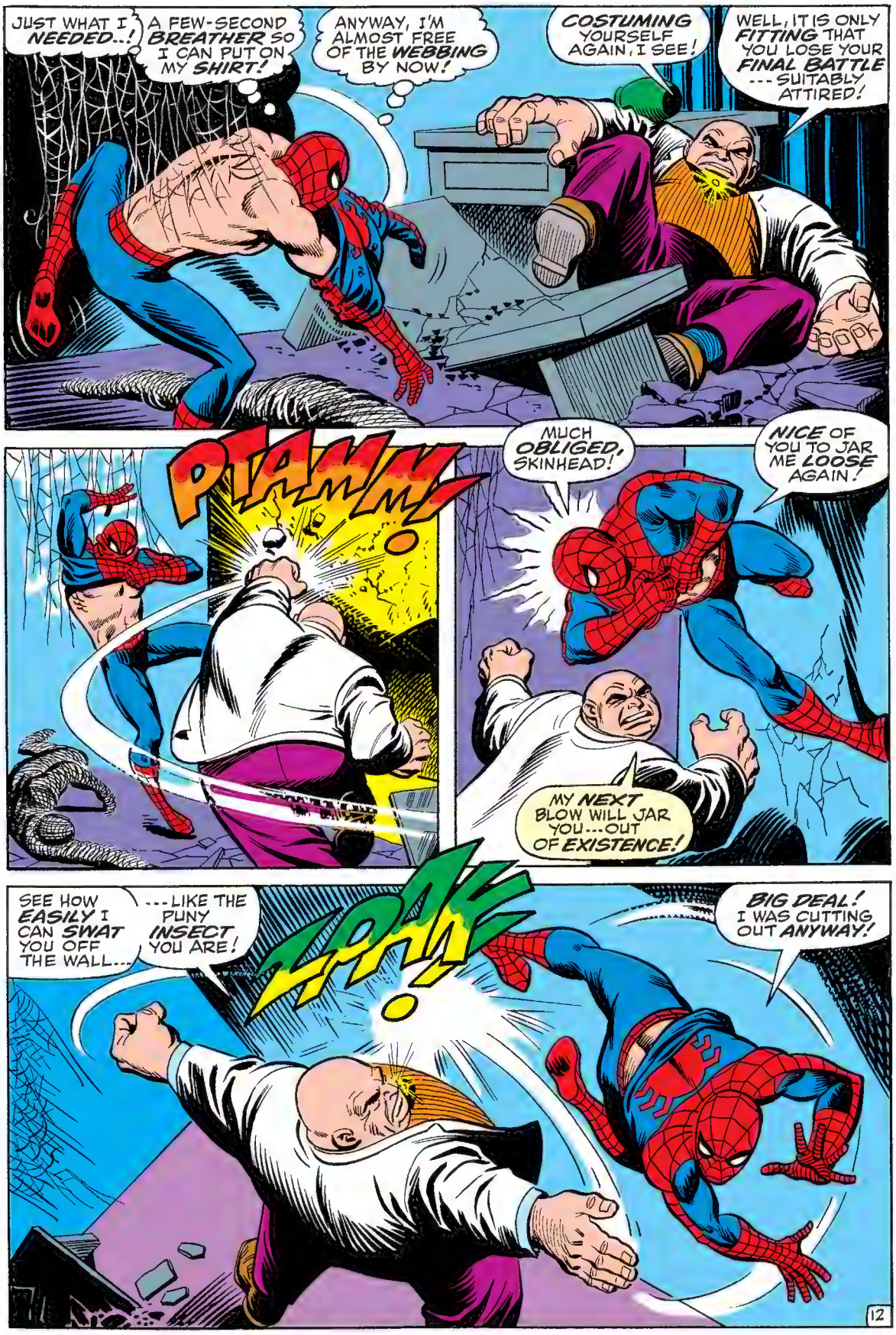
WHILE, IN THE DARKENED ROOM INSIDE...
BOSS, DO YOU THINK...?
QUIET, YOU FOOL!
HE'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE!
JUST STAND THERE... AND WAIT!
I PROMISE YOU WON'T BE... DISAPPOINTED!

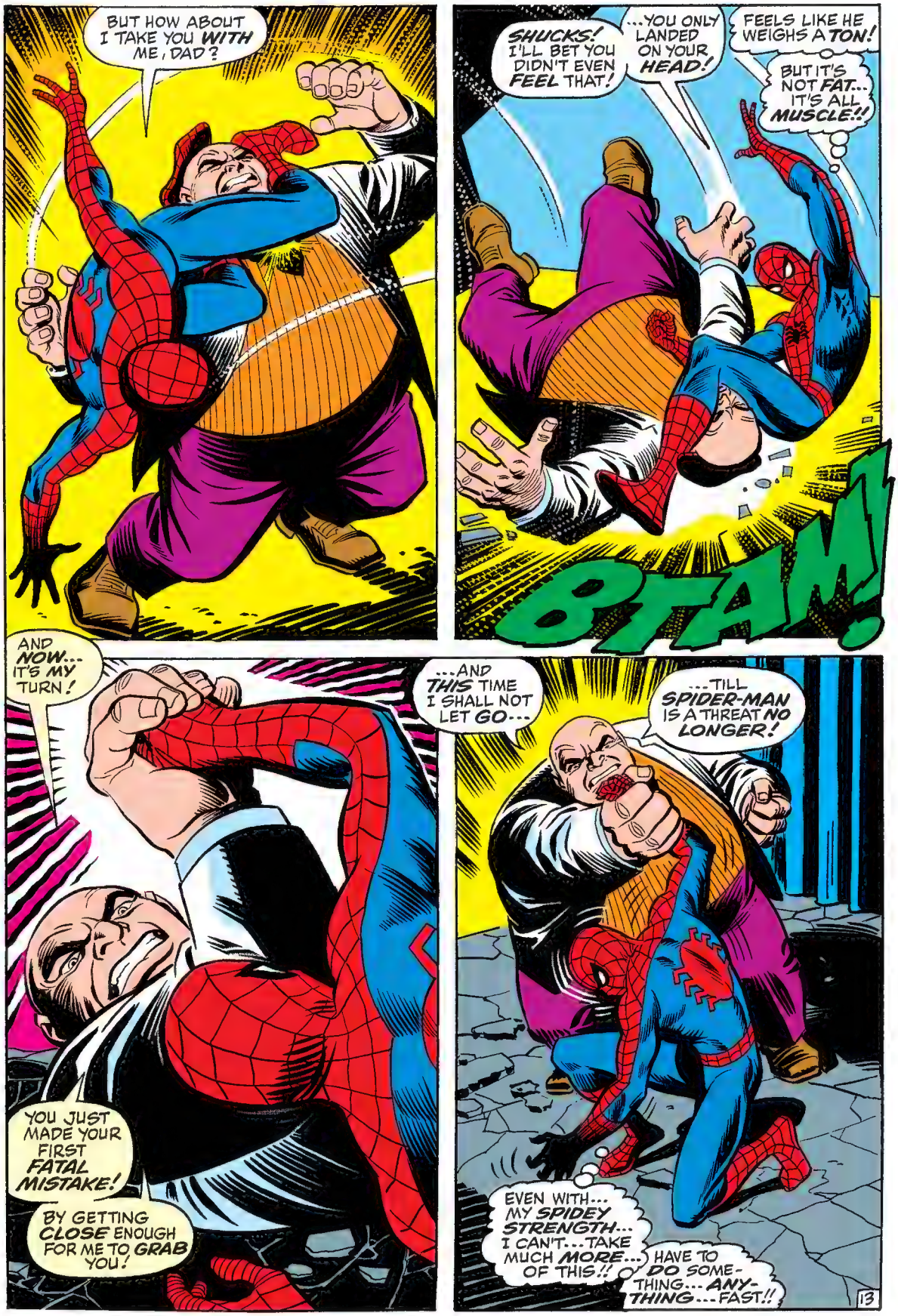
THE SHUTTERS... THEY'RE OPENIN'!!!
LOOK! THERE HE IS!
IT'S HIM! IT'S THE WALL-CRAWLER! WE GOT 'IM AT LAST!
YOU WERE RIGHT, KINGPIN!
IT WORKED OUT... JUST LIKE YOU SAID!
WAIT... YOU TRIGGER-HAPPY FOOLS!
HOLD YOUR FIRE!
TOO LATE!
WE ALREADY GOT 'IM!
I TOLD YOU I WANTED TO DOWN HIM MYSELF!
YOUR PURPOSE WAS MERELY TO PREVENT HIS ESCAPE!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D PANIC AND...
WAIT! WHAT'S THAT?!!
IT... IT AIN'T HIM!
IT'S JUST... A WEBBED-UP DUMMY!
8

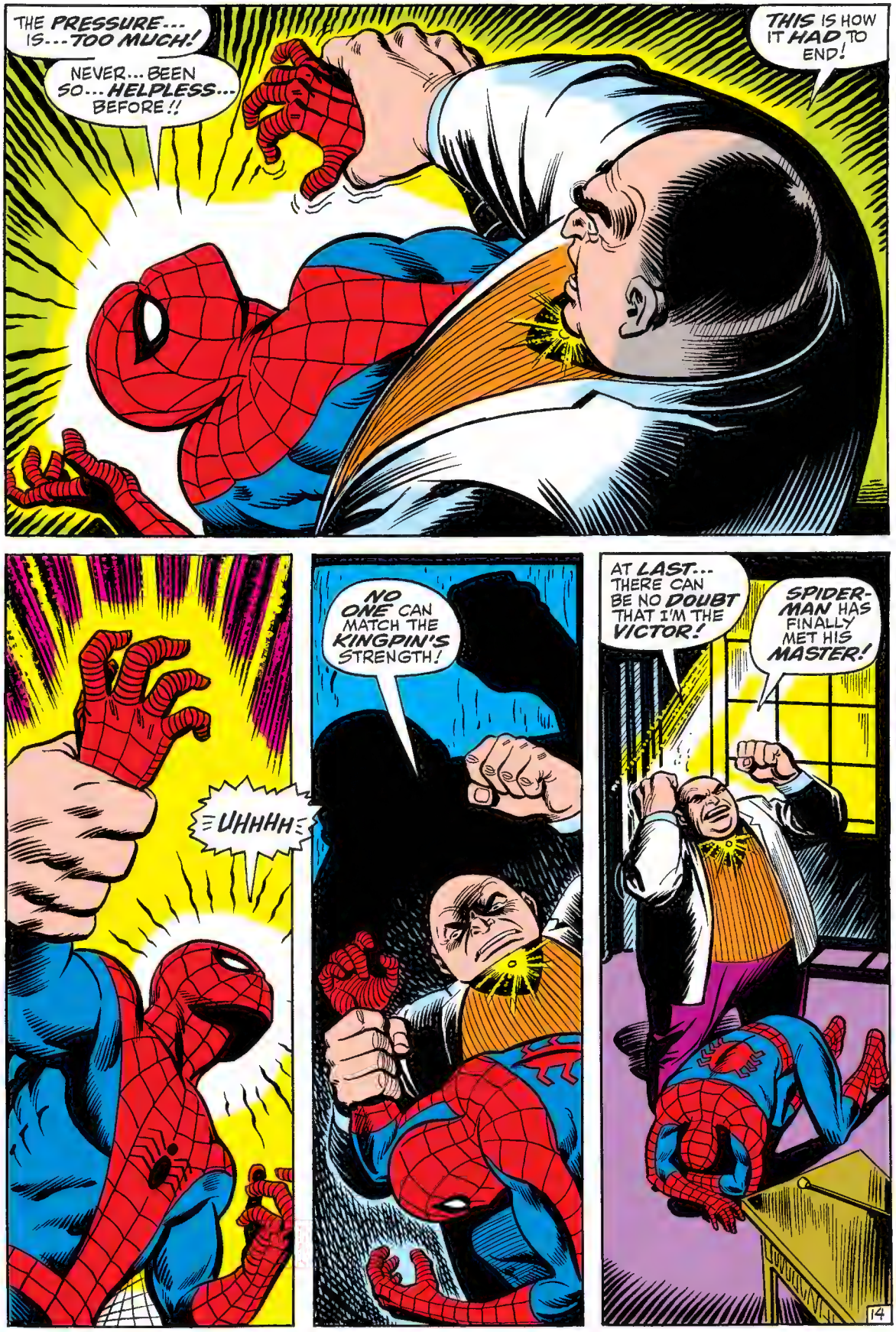

THWIP!
JUST WHOM ARE YOU CALLING A DUMMY?
LOOK OUT!
IF THAT WAS MEANT AS A WARNING TO ME, I'M ALL SHOOK-UP!
BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVETA DO IT!
SINCE IT'S TIME FOR FUN 'N GAMES,
LET'S ALL DROP OUR POP-GUNS!
THEY'RE LIABLE TO GIVE YOU CALLOUSED TRIGGER-FINGERS!
NOT TO MENTION DISHPAN HANDS!
DON'T BE IMPATIENT, K.P.! I'LL GET TO YOU IN A MINUTE!
...SOON AS YOUR LITTLE CHEERING SECTION GOES SLEEPY-BYE!
DON'T WORRY, SPIDER-MAN!... I'VE WAITED TOO LONG FOR THIS MOMENT TO RUSH IT NOW!

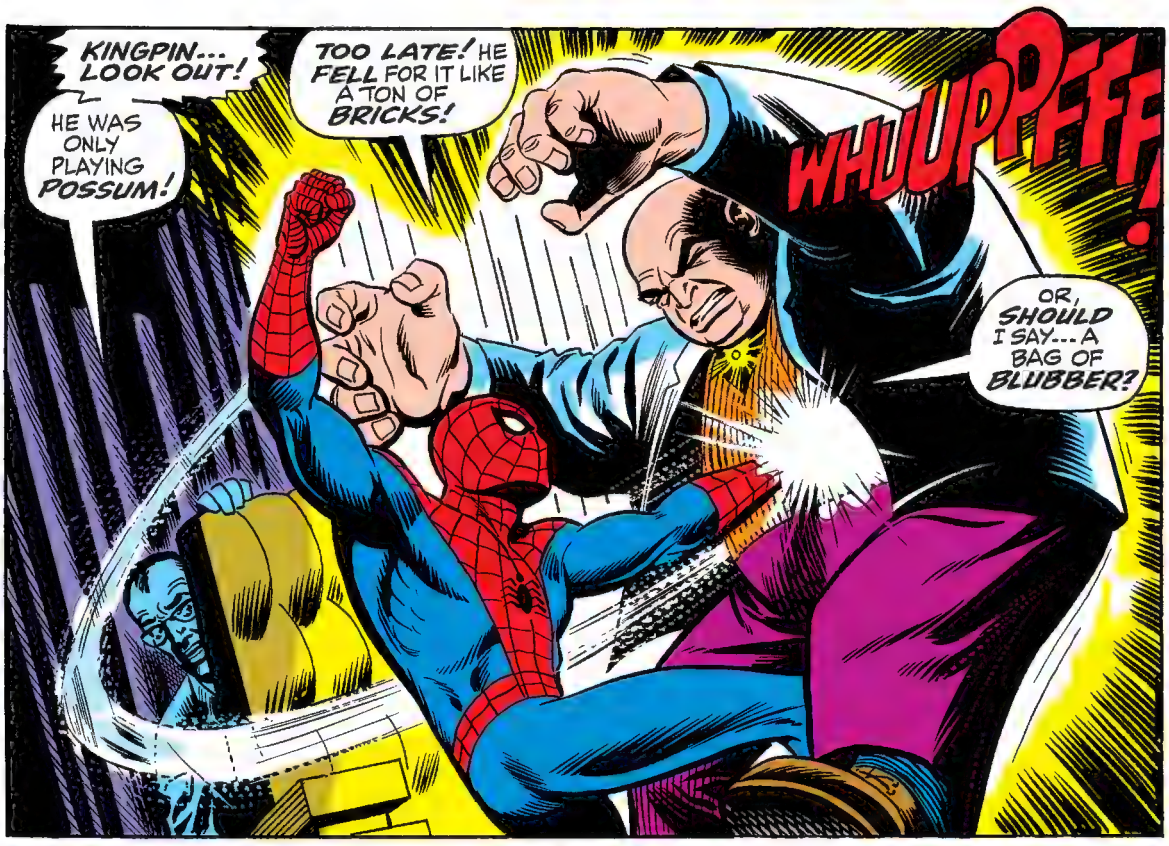

UNHHH! HOW...DID HE MANAGE ...TO MOVE SO FAST??
HIS GRIP... LIKE BEING CAUGHT...IN TWO GIANT, LIVING VISES!
DURING ALL OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS!..
YOU ALWAYS MANAGED TO ESCAPE THRU SOME LUCKY ACCIDENT!
BUT THIS TIME I SHALL EXERCISE FAR MORE CAUTION...
THIS TIME WE BATTLE... TO THE END!
THE GOOEY SUBSTANCE... IS STICKING... TO MY BARE SKIN!
IT'S WHAT HE WANTED!
HE'S GETTING SET... TO CHARGE!!
LOOK AT YOU...YOU PUNY PARODY OF A PRESENT-DAY SUPER-HERO!
HE'S TOSSING ME TOWARDS THE WEB DUMMY!
10.

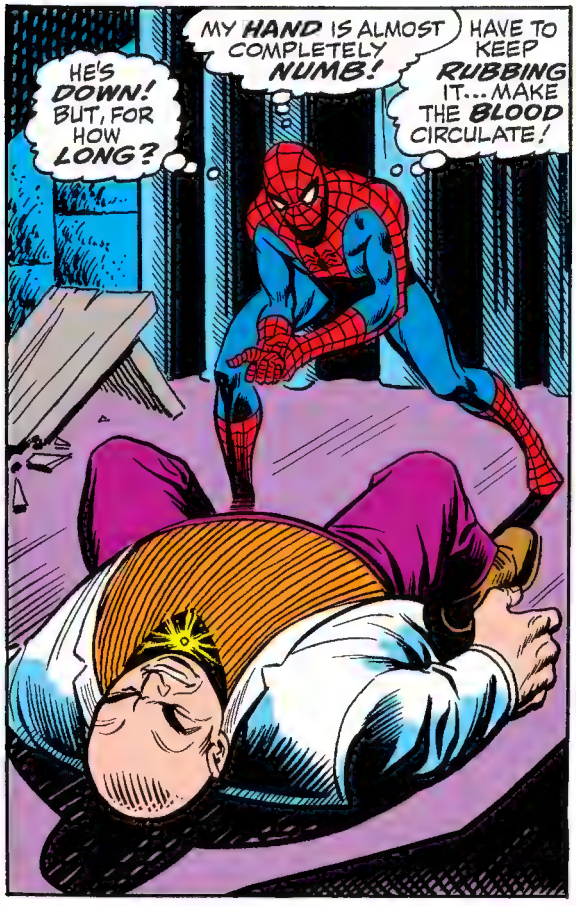

AND NOW... WHILE YOU'RE HOPELESSLY CAUGHT IN A WEB OF YOUR OWN MAKING...
I'LL SET YOU FREE... IN MY OWN... WHA..?!!
YOU SNIVELLING, SCRAWNY SCARECROW!! YOU'RE ONLY PROLONGING YOUR ULTIMATE ANNIHILATION!
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP DODGING ME?
THOOM!
FACE IT, FATS... I'VE GOT TO KEEP DODGING YOU...
...AT LEAST TILL YOU CHANGE YOUR MOUTHWASH!
A JESTER TILL THE END, EH?
WELL, THAT'S FITTING, INDEED...
FOR THIS WILL BE YOUR END!!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT FAT FELLAS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE JOLLY!
THEY OUGHTTA TOSS YOU OUT OF THE UNION!
FAK!
UMMFFF!
11.


JUST WHAT I NEEDED..!
A FEW-SECOND BREATHER SO I CAN PUT ON MY SHIRT!
ANYWAY, I'M ALMOST FREE OF THE WEBBING BY NOW!
COSTUMING YOURSELF AGAIN, I SEE!
WELL, IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT YOU LOSE YOUR FINAL BATTLE --- SUITABLY ATTIRED!
PTAAM!!
MUCH OBLIGED, SKINHEAD!
NICE OF YOU TO JAR ME LOOSE AGAIN!
MY NEXT BLOW WILL JAR YOU---OUT OF EXISTENCE!
SEE HOW EASILY I CAN SWAT YOU OFF THE WALL...
---LIKE THE PUNY INSECT YOU ARE!
KPAK!
BIG DEAL! I WAS CUTTING OUT ANYWAY!


BUT HOW ABOUT I TAKE YOU WITH ME, DAD?
SHUCKS! I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T EVEN FEEL THAT!
...YOU ONLY LANDED ON YOUR HEAD!
FEELS LIKE HE WEIGHS A TON!
BUT IT'S NOT FAT... IT'S ALL MUSCLE!!
OTAM!
AND NOW... IT'S MY TURN!
YOU JUST MADE YOUR FIRST FATAL MISTAKE!
BY GETTING CLOSE ENOUGH FOR ME TO GRAB YOU!
...AND THIS TIME I SHALL NOT LET GO...
...TILL SPIDER-MAN IS A THREAT NO LONGER!
EVEN WITH... MY SPIDEY STRENGTH... I CAN'T...TAKE MUCH MORE... OF THIS!!
HAVE TO DO SOMETHING... ANYTHING... FAST!!
13


THE PRESSURE... IS... TOO MUCH!
NEVER... BEEN SO... HELPLESS... BEFORE!!
THIS IS HOW IT HAD TO END!
UHHHH
NO ONE CAN MATCH THE KINGPIN'S STRENGTH!
AT LAST... THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT I'M THE VICTOR!
SPIDER-MAN HAS FINALLY MET HIS MASTER!
14


KINGPIN... LOOK OUT!
HE WAS ONLY PLAYING POSSUM!
TOO LATE! HE FELL FOR IT LIKE A TON OF BRICKS!
WHUUPPFFF!
OR, SHOULD I SAY... A BAG OF BLUBBER?

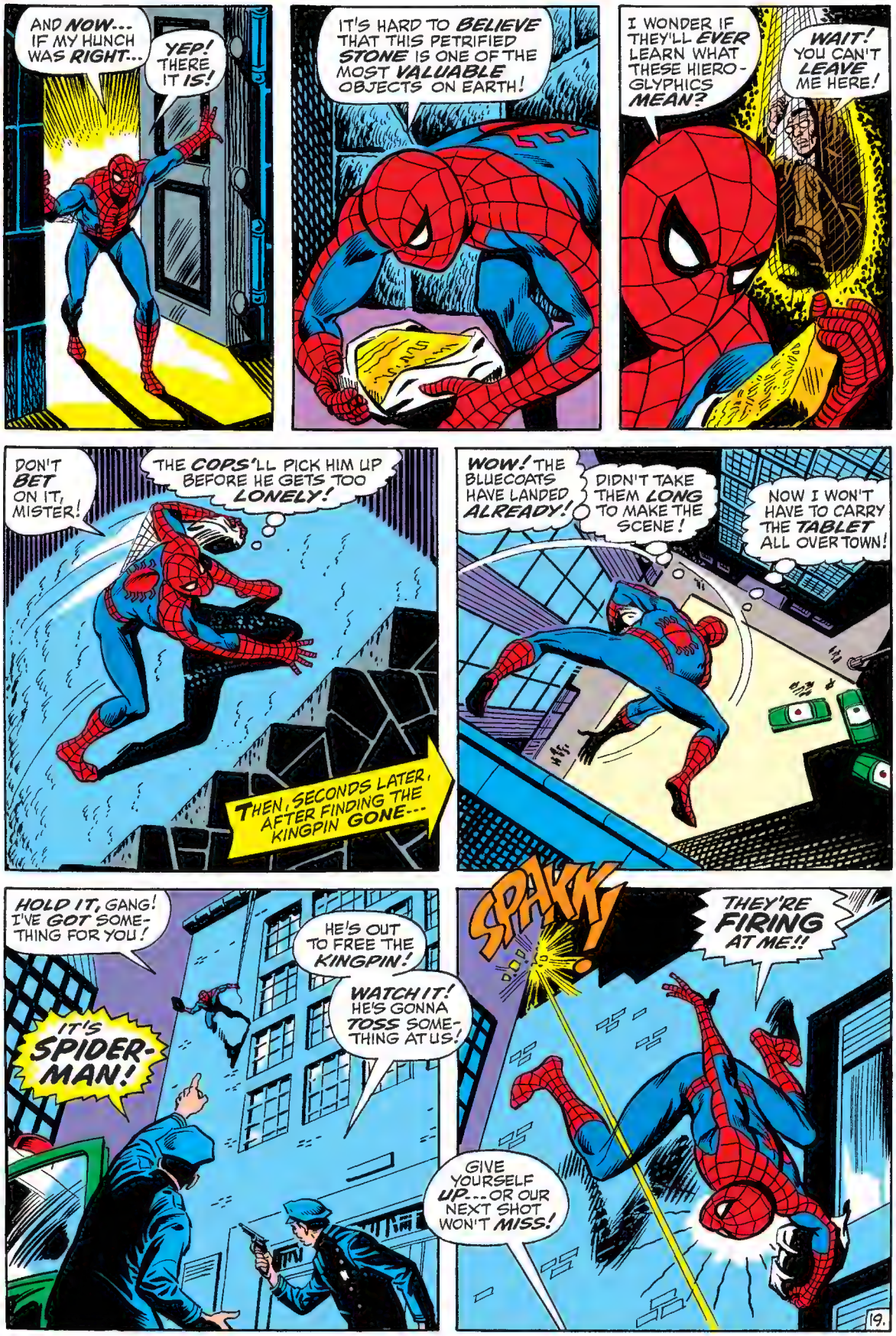

HE'S DOWN! BUT, FOR HOW LONG?
MY HAND IS ALMOST COMPLETELY NUMB!
HAVE TO KEEP RUBBING IT... MAKE THE BLOOD CIRCULATE!

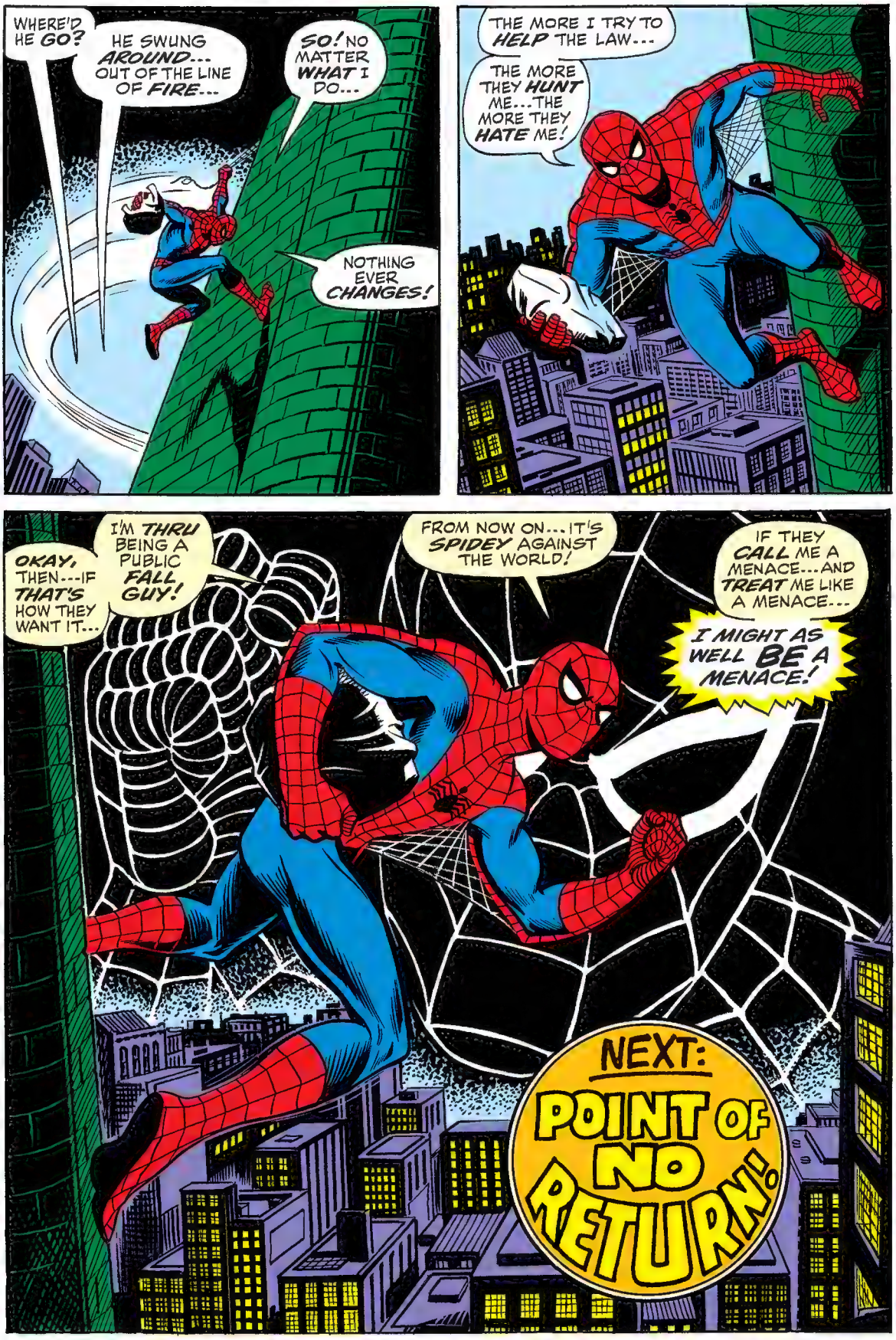
GOT YOU, YOU BLUNDERING FOOL!
TWO CAN PLAY YOUR LITTLE GAME!
BLOK!

NOW I'LL FINISH WHERE WE LEFT OFF!
BUT THIS TIME I'LL BE LESS MERCIFUL!
COME OFF IT! A FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE YOU NEVER WERE!
HAVE TO PLAY FOR TIME...TILL THE NUMBNESS PASSES!
THWAP!
RUNNING WON'T HELP!
MY CANE WILL PICK YOU OFF THE WALL...
...LIKE THE HUMAN INSECT YOU TRULY ARE!
THANKS FOR THE WARNING, SKINHEAD!
I'LL DO AS MUCH FOR YOU SOME TIME!
PHTHUPPPPP
PERFECT TIMING!
CLICK!
WHA..?!!
ARGHHH!
BTOOOM!
HIS CANE-GUN BACK-FIRED, AND...
UH OH! ONE OF HIS STOOGES...MAKING A BEE-LINE OUT OF HERE!
BUT, WHERE'S HE HEADING?
16

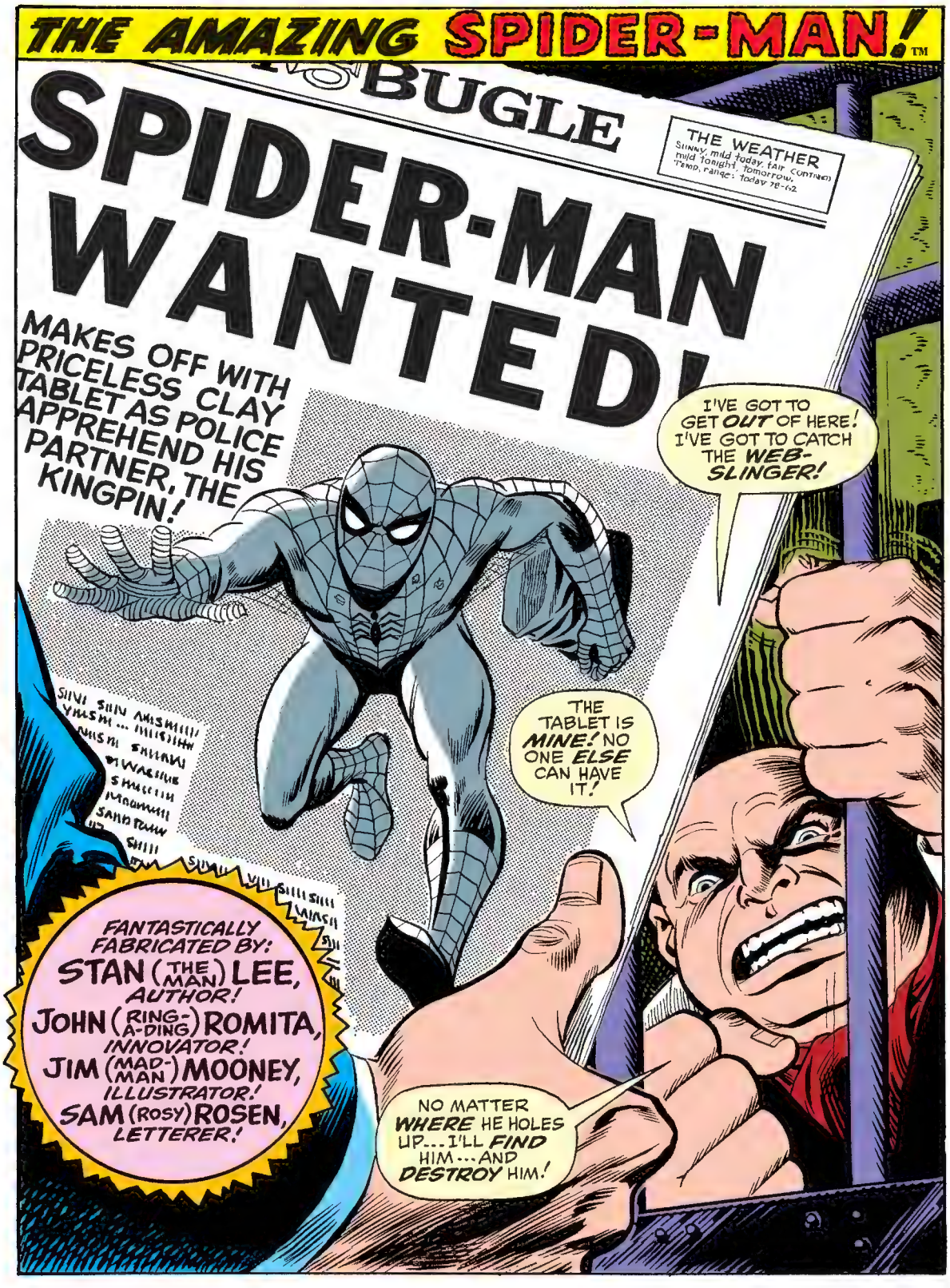
IF HE WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE--- HE'D BE GOING THE OTHER WAY!
BUT, HE'S NOT---WHICH JUST MIGHT MEAN ONE THING...
HE COULD BE AFTER THE STOLEN TABLET!
THE KINGPIN'LL HAVE TO KEEP!
RIGHT NOW, THE TABLET IS MORE IMPORTANT!
WHILE OUTSIDE, AT THAT MOMENT...
THAT'S RIGHT, SARGE! I SPOTTED THE KINGPIN'S CAR OVER THERE...
AND THEN I HEARD A SHOT---FROM INSIDE THE BUILDING!
ALL RIGHT, MEN! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
THERE HE IS! WE FOUND 'IM!
QUICK! GET THE CUFFS ON HIM WHILE HE'S STILL GROGGY!
THE POLICE! ...THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO HOLD ME!
BUT I WON'T YET RESIST! I'VE SOMETHING THAT MUST BE DONE FIRST...!
WHERE'S THE TABLET, KINGPIN? WE KNOW YOU'VE GOT IT!
DO YOU THINK I'D KEEP IT HERE---WHERE IT COULD INCRIMINATE ME?
UNTIL YOU FIND IT, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PROVE MY GUILT!
AND, BY NOW, MY WEB-SWINGING ALLY HAS TAKEN IT SAFELY AWAY FROM HERE!
... JUST AS HE WILL FREE ME FROM CAPTIVITY--- WHEN THE TIME IS RIPE!
THEN JAMESON WAS RIGHT! SPIDER-MAN'S IN THIS AS DEEP AS YOU!
WITH A FEW CHOICE WORDS, I'VE SEALED THE WALL-CRAWLER'S DOOM!
17.

MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF HOW DEEPLY HE'S BEEN IMPLICATED, SPIDEY CONTINUES TO DO HIS THING...
NO ONE CAN OPEN IT THE WAY THE KINGPIN COULD---
BUT, IF I CAN FIND MYSELF ENOUGH EX-PLOSIVES..!!
DON'T BOTHER, BRIGHT BOY!
WHO..??!
THERE! THAT'LL KEEP YOU ALL COMFY-COZY!
NO WONDER NO ONE CAN OPEN THIS THING---
THERE'S NO LOCK TO JIMMY! NO COMBINATION! NOTHING!
WHICH MEANS THAT TUBBY MUST HAVE USED RAW STRENGTH!
JUST EXACTLY LIKE...
THIS!!
KRRRAK!
18


AND NOW... IF MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT...
YEP! THERE IT IS!
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THIS PETRIFIED STONE IS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE OBJECTS ON EARTH!
I WONDER IF THEY'LL EVER LEARN WHAT THESE HIERO-GLYPHICS MEAN?
WAIT! YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME HERE!
DON'T BET ON IT, MISTER!
THE COPS'LL PICK HIM UP BEFORE HE GETS TOO LONELY!
THEN, SECONDS LATER, AFTER FINDING THE KINGPIN GONE---
WOW! THE BLUECOATS HAVE LANDED ALREADY!
DIDN'T TAKE THEM LONG TO MAKE THE SCENE!
NOW I WON'T HAVE TO CARRY THE TABLET ALL OVER TOWN!
HOLD IT, GANG! I'VE GOT SOME-THING FOR YOU!
IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
HE'S OUT TO FREE THE KINGPIN!
WATCH IT! HE'S GONNA TOSS SOME-THING AT US!
GIVE YOURSELF UP---OR OUR NEXT SHOT WON'T MISS!
SPAKK
THEY'RE FIRING AT ME!!
19.


WHERE'D HE GO?
HE SWUNG AROUND... OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE...
SO! NO MATTER WHAT I DO...
NOTHING EVER CHANGES!
THE MORE I TRY TO HELP THE LAW...
THE MORE THEY HUNT ME...THE MORE THEY HATE ME!
OKAY, THEN---IF THAT'S HOW THEY WANT IT...
I'M THRU BEING A PUBLIC FALL GUY!
FROM NOW ON... IT'S SPIDEY AGAINST THE WORLD!
IF THEY CALL ME A MENACE...AND TREAT ME LIKE A MENACE...
I MIGHT AS WELL BE A MENACE!
NEXT:
POINT OF NO RETURN!

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
70
MAR
the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPIDER-MAN WANTED!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
ROMITA


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
BUGLE
THE WEATHER
Sunny, mild today, fair, continued mild tonight, tomorrow. Temp. range: today 78-62
SPIDER-MAN WANTED!
MAKES OFF WITH PRICELESS CLAY TABLET AS POLICE APPREHEND HIS PARTNER, THE KINGPIN!
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! I'VE GOT TO CATCH THE WEB-SLINGER!
THE TABLET IS MINE! NO ONE ELSE CAN HAVE IT!
NO MATTER WHERE HE HOLES UP... I'LL FIND HIM... AND DESTROY HIM!
FANTASTICALLY FABRICATED BY:
STAN (THE MAN) LEE, AUTHOR!
JOHN (RING-A-DING) ROMITA, INNOVATOR!
JIM (MAD-MAN) MOONEY, ILLUSTRATOR!
SAM (ROSY) ROSEN, LETTERER!

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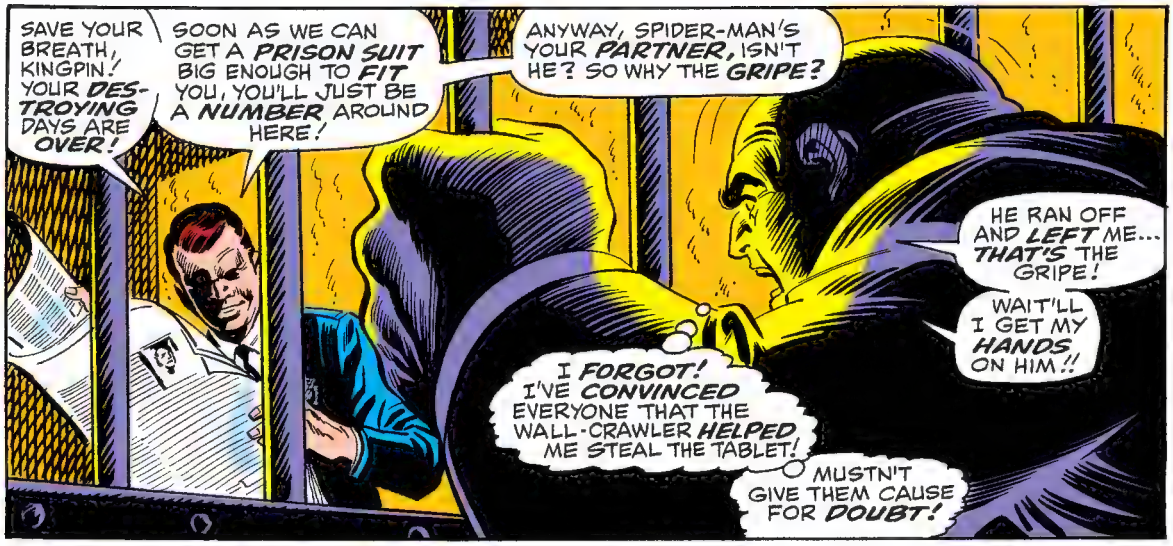
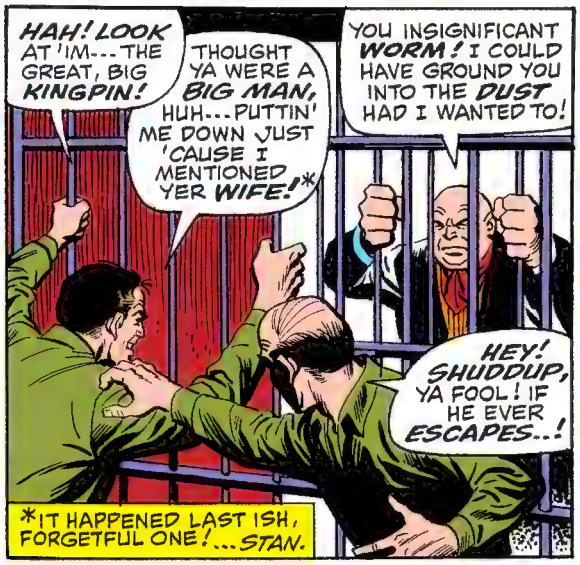
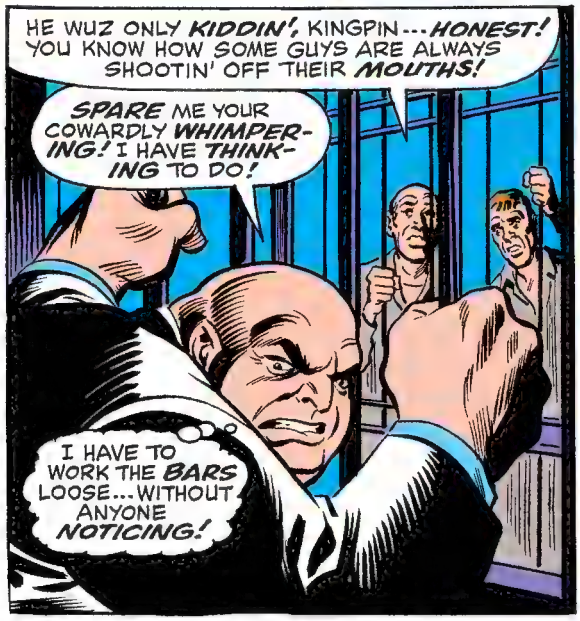
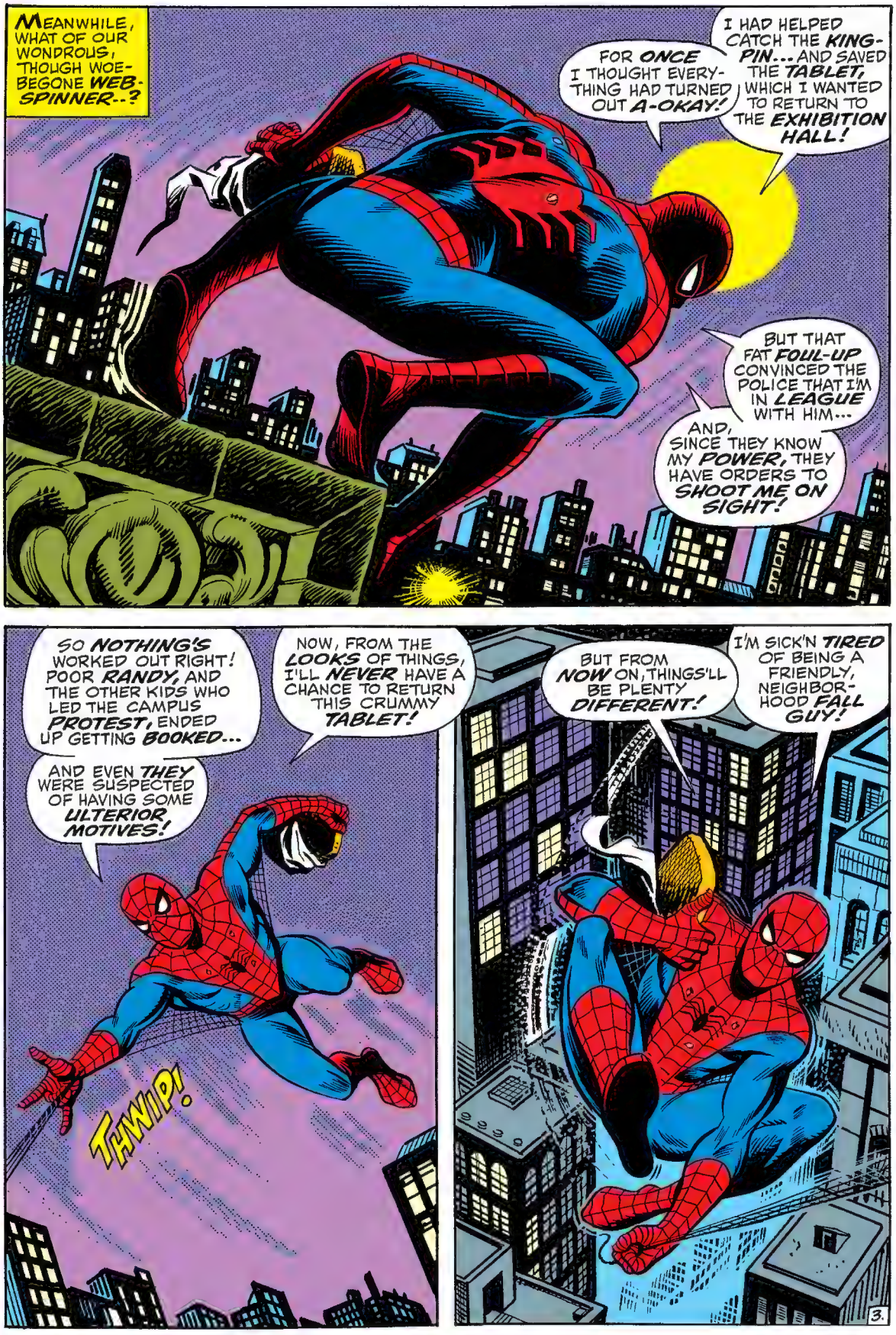

SAVE YOUR BREATH, KINGPIN! YOUR DESTROYING DAYS ARE OVER!
SOON AS WE CAN GET A PRISON SUIT BIG ENOUGH TO FIT YOU, YOU'LL JUST BE A NUMBER AROUND HERE!
ANYWAY, SPIDER-MAN'S YOUR PARTNER, ISN'T HE? SO WHY THE GRIPE?
HE RAN OFF AND LEFT ME... THAT'S THE GRIPE!
WAIT'LL I GET MY HANDS ON HIM!!
I FORGOT! I'VE CONVINCED EVERYONE THAT THE WALL-CRAWLER HELPED ME STEAL THE TABLET!
MUSTN'T GIVE THEM CAUSE FOR DOUBT!

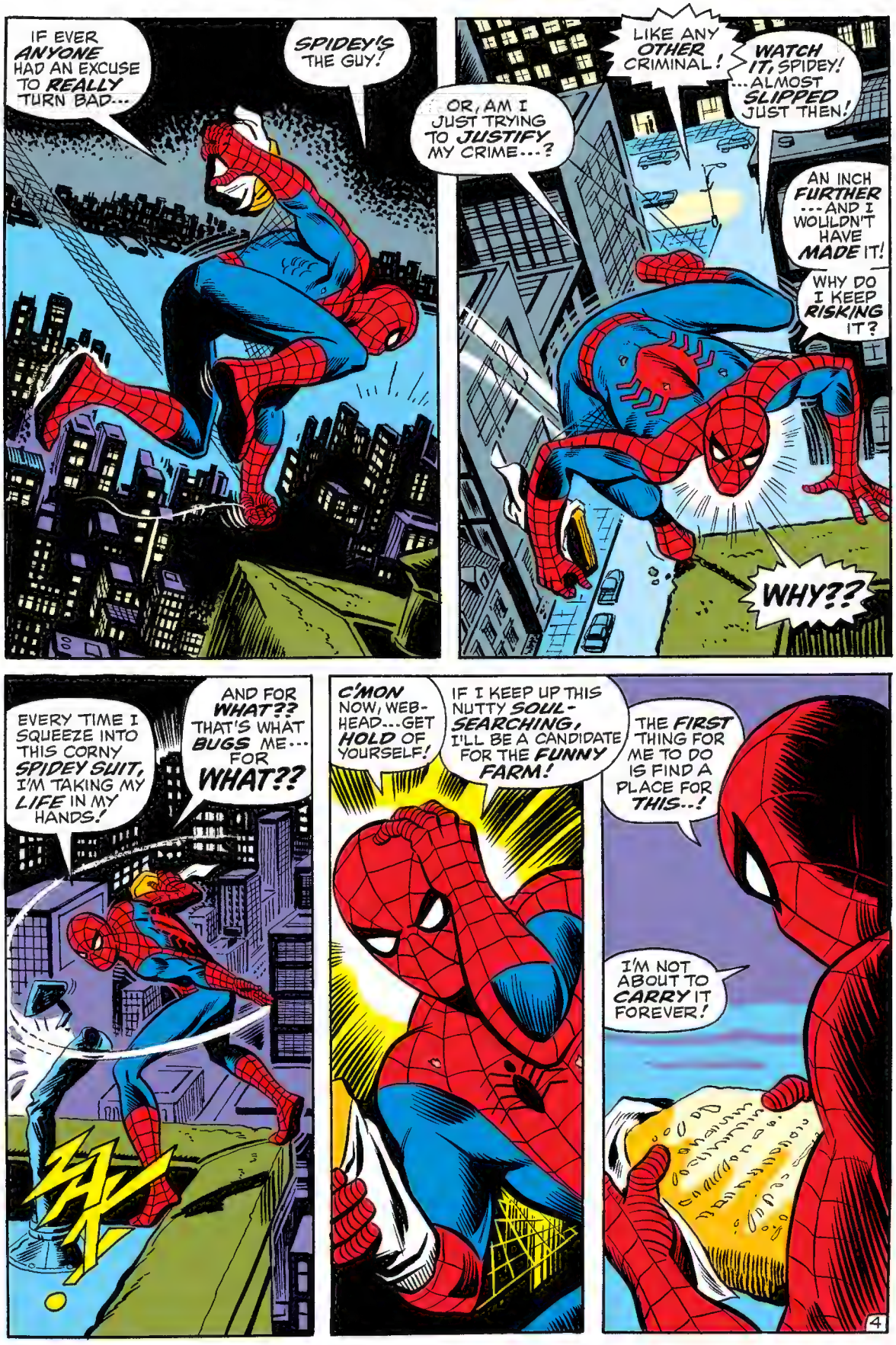

HAH! LOOK AT 'IM--- THE GREAT, BIG KINGPIN!
THOUGHT YA WERE A BIG MAN, HUH---PUTTIN' ME DOWN JUST 'CAUSE I MENTIONED YER WIFE!*
YOU INSIGNIFICANT WORM! I COULD HAVE GROUND YOU INTO THE DUST HAD I WANTED TO!
HEY! SHUDDUP, YA FOOL! IF HE EVER ESCAPES..!
*IT HAPPENED LAST ISH, FORGETFUL ONE!...STAN.

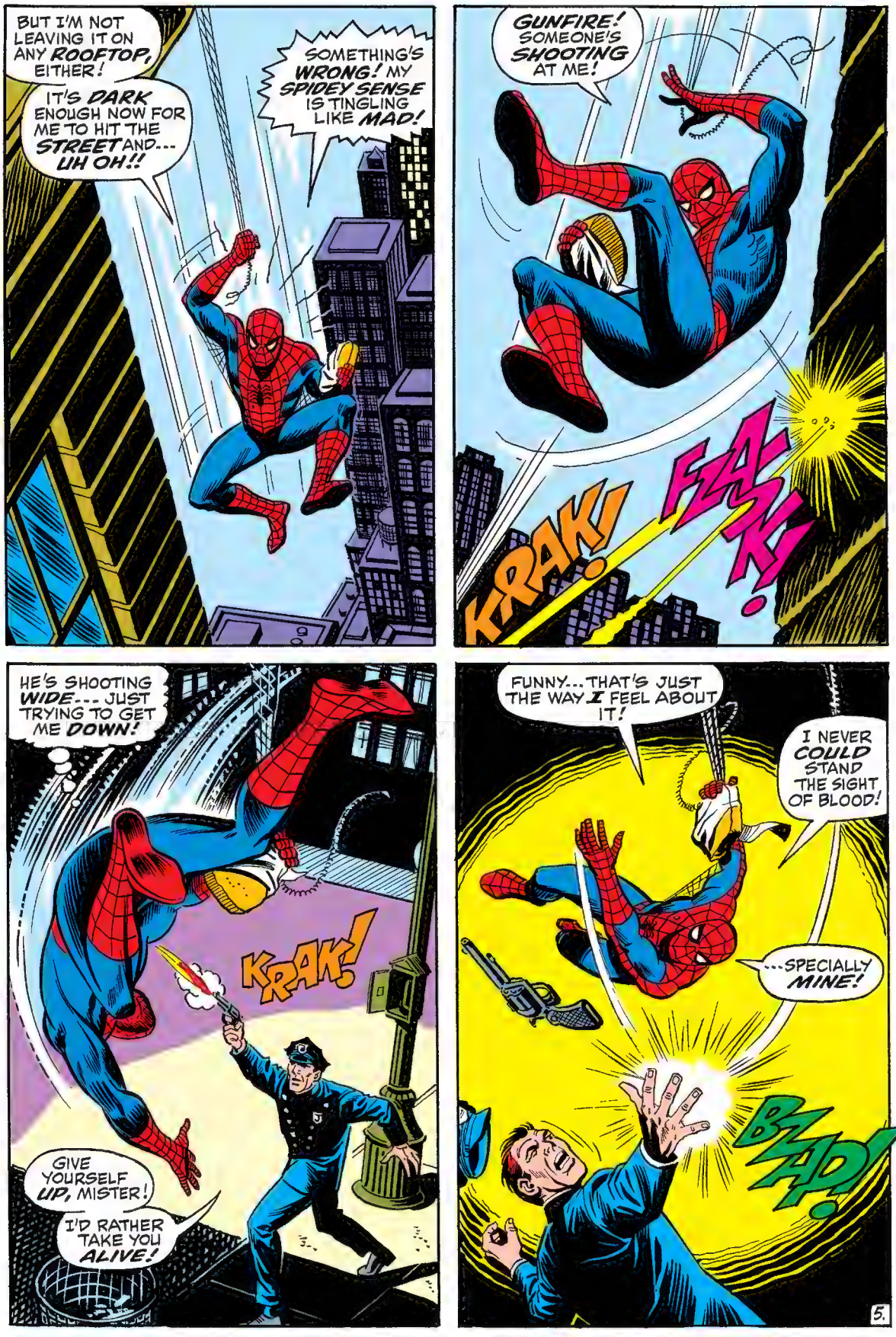
ESCAPE? OF COURSE I'LL ESCAPE!
AND THEN, JUST IMAGINE YOURSELVES... HELPLESS IN THE KINGPIN'S GRIP!
HOW COME YOU'RE NO LONGER LAUGHING!

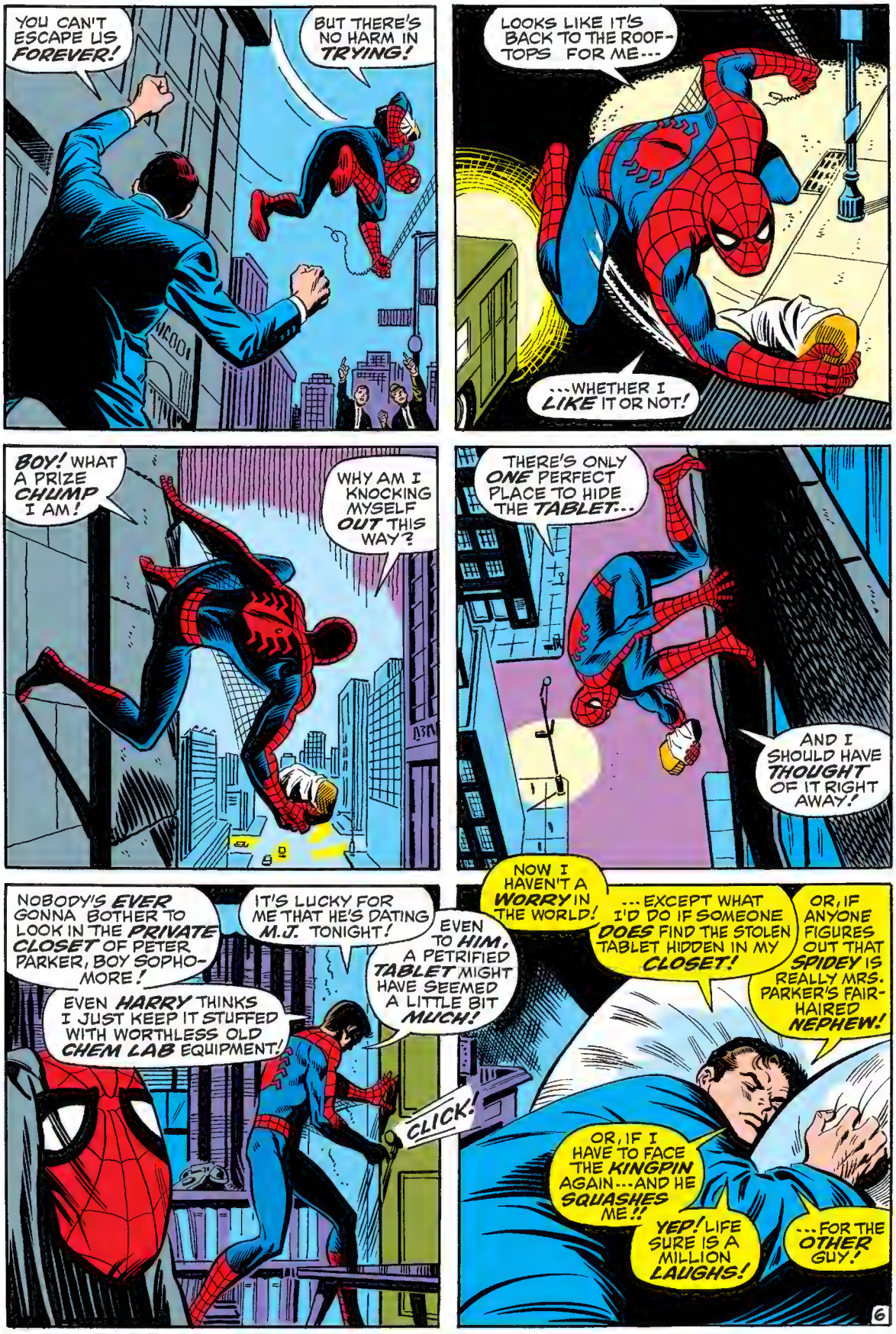

HE WUZ ONLY KIDDIN', KINGPIN---HONEST! YOU KNOW HOW SOME GUYS ARE ALWAYS SHOOTIN' OFF THEIR MOUTHS!
SPARE ME YOUR COWARDLY WHIMPERING! I HAVE THINKING TO DO!
I HAVE TO WORK THE BARS LOOSE...WITHOUT ANYONE NOTICING!

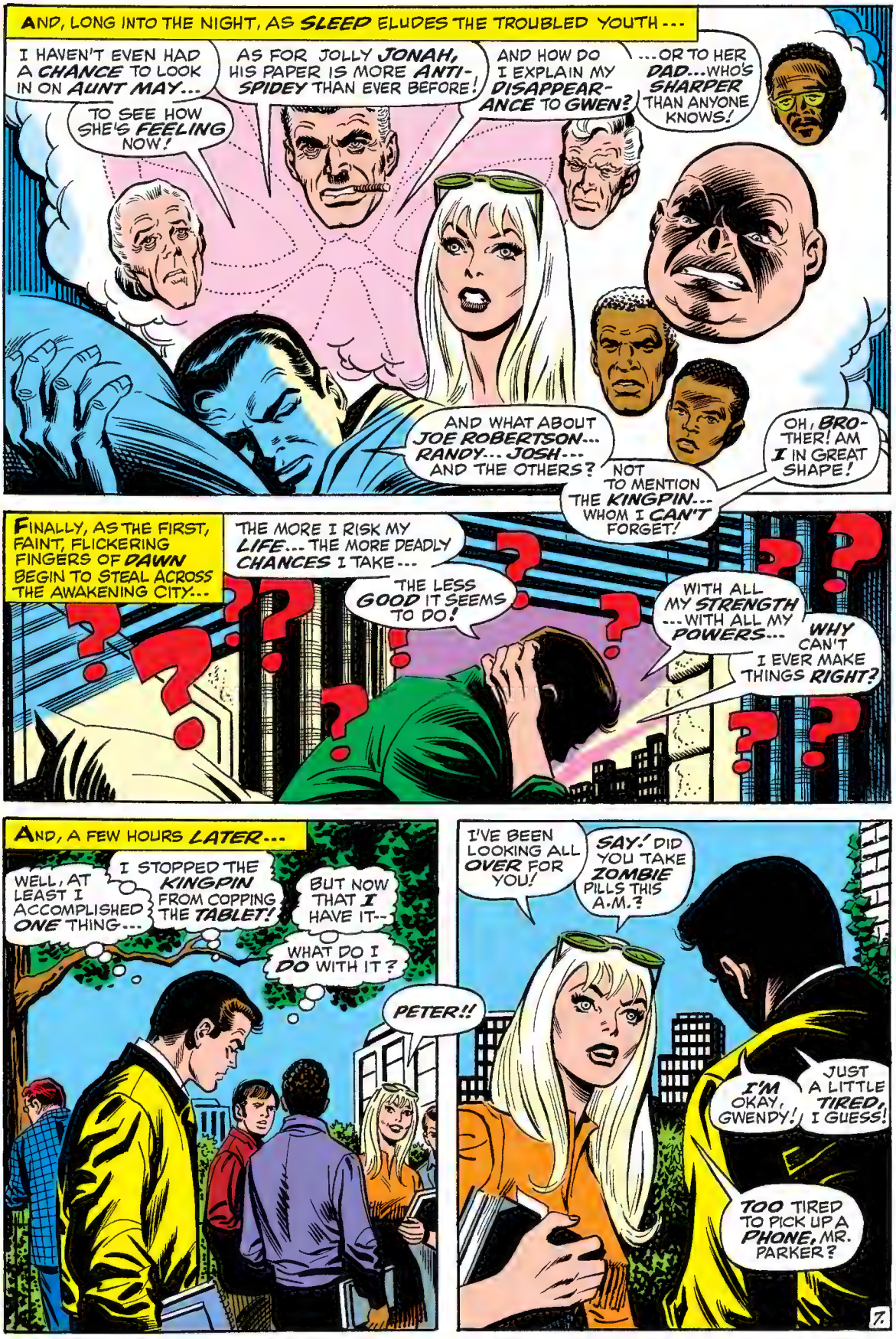
I'LL ACT AS THOUGH I'M GRIPPING THEM IN FRUSTRATED RAGE!
AND, ALL THE WHILE, I'LL BE SLOWLY TWISTING---AND TURNING THEM!
2.

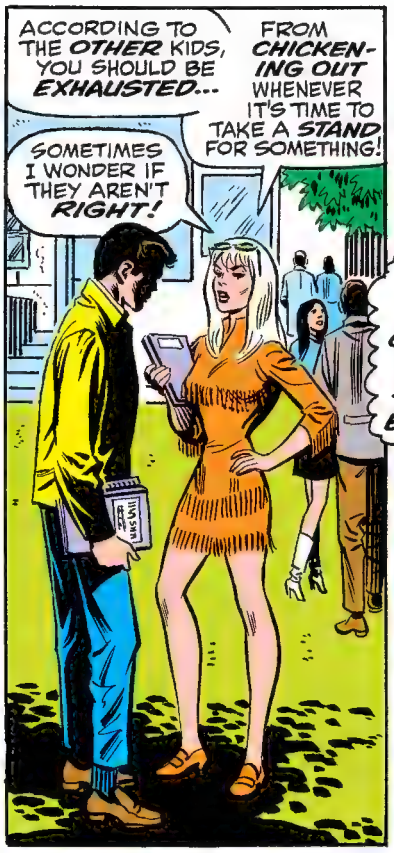

MEANWHILE, WHAT OF OUR WONDROUS, THOUGH WOE-BEGONE WEB-SPINNER--?
FOR ONCE I THOUGHT EVERY-THING HAD TURNED OUT A-OKAY!
I HAD HELPED CATCH THE KING-PIN... AND SAVED THE TABLET, WHICH I WANTED TO RETURN TO THE EXHIBITION HALL!
BUT THAT FAT FOUL-UP CONVINCED THE POLICE THAT I'M IN LEAGUE WITH HIM...
AND, SINCE THEY KNOW MY POWER, THEY HAVE ORDERS TO SHOOT ME ON SIGHT!
SO NOTHING'S WORKED OUT RIGHT! POOR RANDY, AND THE OTHER KIDS WHO LED THE CAMPUS PROTEST, ENDED UP GETTING BOOKED...
AND EVEN THEY WERE SUSPECTED OF HAVING SOME ULTERIOR MOTIVES!
NOW, FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS, I'LL NEVER HAVE A CHANCE TO RETURN THIS CRUMMY TABLET!
THWIP!
BUT FROM NOW ON, THINGS'LL BE PLENTY DIFFERENT!
I'M SICK'N TIRED OF BEING A FRIENDLY, NEIGHBOR-HOOD FALL GUY!
3.

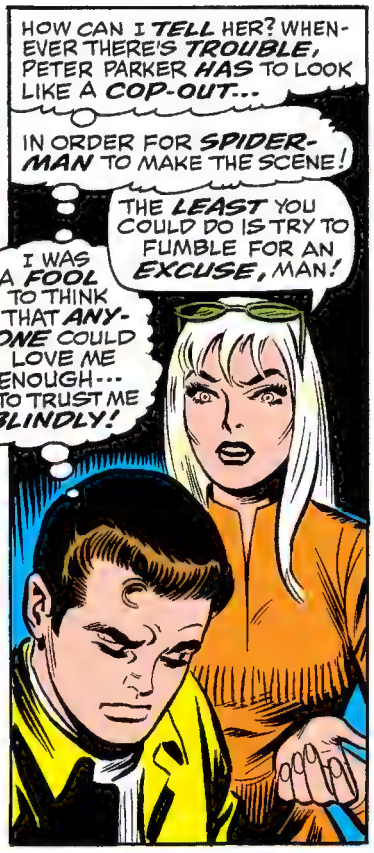

IF EVER ANYONE HAD AN EXCUSE TO REALLY TURN BAD...
SPIDEY'S THE GUY!
OR, AM I JUST TRYING TO JUSTIFY MY CRIME...?
LIKE ANY OTHER CRIMINAL!
WATCH IT, SPIDEY! ...ALMOST SLIPPED JUST THEN!
AN INCH FURTHER ...AND I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT!
WHY DO I KEEP RISKING IT?
WHY??
EVERY TIME I SQUEEZE INTO THIS CORNY SPIDEY SUIT, I'M TAKING MY LIFE IN MY HANDS!
AND FOR WHAT?? THAT'S WHAT BUGS ME... FOR WHAT??
ZAK!
C'MON NOW, WEB-HEAD...GET HOLD OF YOURSELF!
IF I KEEP UP THIS NUTTY SOUL-SEARCHING, I'LL BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE FUNNY FARM!
THE FIRST THING FOR ME TO DO IS FIND A PLACE FOR THIS..!
I'M NOT ABOUT TO CARRY IT FOREVER!
4


BUT I'M NOT LEAVING IT ON ANY ROOFTOP, EITHER!
IT'S DARK ENOUGH NOW FOR ME TO HIT THE STREET AND--- UH OH!!
SOMETHING'S WRONG! MY SPIDEY SENSE IS TINGLING LIKE MAD!
GUNFIRE! SOMEONE'S SHOOTING AT ME!
KRAK!
FLAK!
HE'S SHOOTING WIDE--- JUST TRYING TO GET ME DOWN!
KRAK!
GIVE YOURSELF UP, MISTER!
I'D RATHER TAKE YOU ALIVE!
FUNNY... THAT'S JUST THE WAY I FEEL ABOUT IT!
I NEVER COULD STAND THE SIGHT OF BLOOD!
...SPECIALLY MINE!
BZAP!
5.


YOU CAN'T ESCAPE US FOREVER!
BUT THERE'S NO HARM IN TRYING!
LOOKS LIKE IT'S BACK TO THE ROOF-TOPS FOR ME---
...WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT!
BOY! WHAT A PRIZE CHUMP I AM!
WHY AM I KNOCKING MYSELF OUT THIS WAY?
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERFECT PLACE TO HIDE THE TABLET...
AND I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT RIGHT AWAY!
NOBODY'S EVER GONNA BOTHER TO LOOK IN THE PRIVATE CLOSET OF PETER PARKER, BOY SOPHO-MORE!
EVEN HARRY THINKS I JUST KEEP IT STUFFED WITH WORTHLESS OLD CHEM LAB EQUIPMENT!
IT'S LUCKY FOR ME THAT HE'S DATING M.J. TONIGHT!
EVEN TO HIM, A PETRIFIED TABLET MIGHT HAVE SEEMED A LITTLE BIT MUCH!
CLICK!
NOW I HAVEN'T A WORRY IN THE WORLD!
...EXCEPT WHAT I'D DO IF SOMEONE DOES FIND THE STOLEN TABLET HIDDEN IN MY CLOSET!
OR, IF ANYONE FIGURES OUT THAT SPIDEY IS REALLY MRS. PARKER'S FAIR-HAIRED NEPHEW!
OR, IF I HAVE TO FACE THE KINGPIN AGAIN---AND HE SQUASHES ME!!
YEP! LIFE SURE IS A MILLION LAUGHS!
...FOR THE OTHER GUY!
6


AND, LONG INTO THE NIGHT, AS SLEEP ELUDES THE TROUBLED YOUTH ---
I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK IN ON AUNT MAY...
TO SEE HOW SHE'S FEELING NOW!
AS FOR JOLLY JONAH, HIS PAPER IS MORE ANTI-SPIDEY THAN EVER BEFORE!
AND HOW DO I EXPLAIN MY DISAPPEAR-ANCE TO GWEN?
...OR TO HER DAD...WHO'S SHARPER THAN ANYONE KNOWS!
AND WHAT ABOUT JOE ROBERTSON... RANDY... JOSH... AND THE OTHERS?
NOT TO MENTION THE KINGPIN... WHOM I CAN'T FORGET!
OH, BRO-THER! AM I IN GREAT SHAPE!
FINALLY, AS THE FIRST, FAINT, FLICKERING FINGERS OF DAWN BEGIN TO STEAL ACROSS THE AWAKENING CITY...
THE MORE I RISK MY LIFE... THE MORE DEADLY CHANCES I TAKE...
THE LESS GOOD IT SEEMS TO DO!
WITH ALL MY STRENGTH ---WITH ALL MY POWERS...
WHY CAN'T I EVER MAKE THINGS RIGHT?
AND, A FEW HOURS LATER...
WELL, AT LEAST I ACCOMPLISHED ONE THING...
I STOPPED THE KINGPIN FROM COPPING THE TABLET!
BUT NOW THAT I HAVE IT--
WHAT DO I DO WITH IT?
PETER!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
SAY! DID YOU TAKE ZOMBIE PILLS THIS A.M.?
I'M OKAY, GWENDY!
JUST A LITTLE TIRED, I GUESS!
TOO TIRED TO PICK UP A PHONE, MR. PARKER?
7


ACCORDING TO THE OTHER KIDS, YOU SHOULD BE EXHAUSTED...
FROM CHICKENING OUT WHENEVER IT'S TIME TO TAKE A STAND FOR SOMETHING!
SOMETIMES I WONDER IF THEY AREN'T RIGHT!


HOW CAN I TELL HER? WHENEVER THERE'S TROUBLE, PETER PARKER HAS TO LOOK LIKE A COP-OUT...
IN ORDER FOR SPIDER-MAN TO MAKE THE SCENE!
THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS TRY TO FUMBLE FOR AN EXCUSE, MAN!
I WAS A FOOL TO THINK THAT ANYONE COULD LOVE ME ENOUGH--- TO TRUST ME BLINDLY!

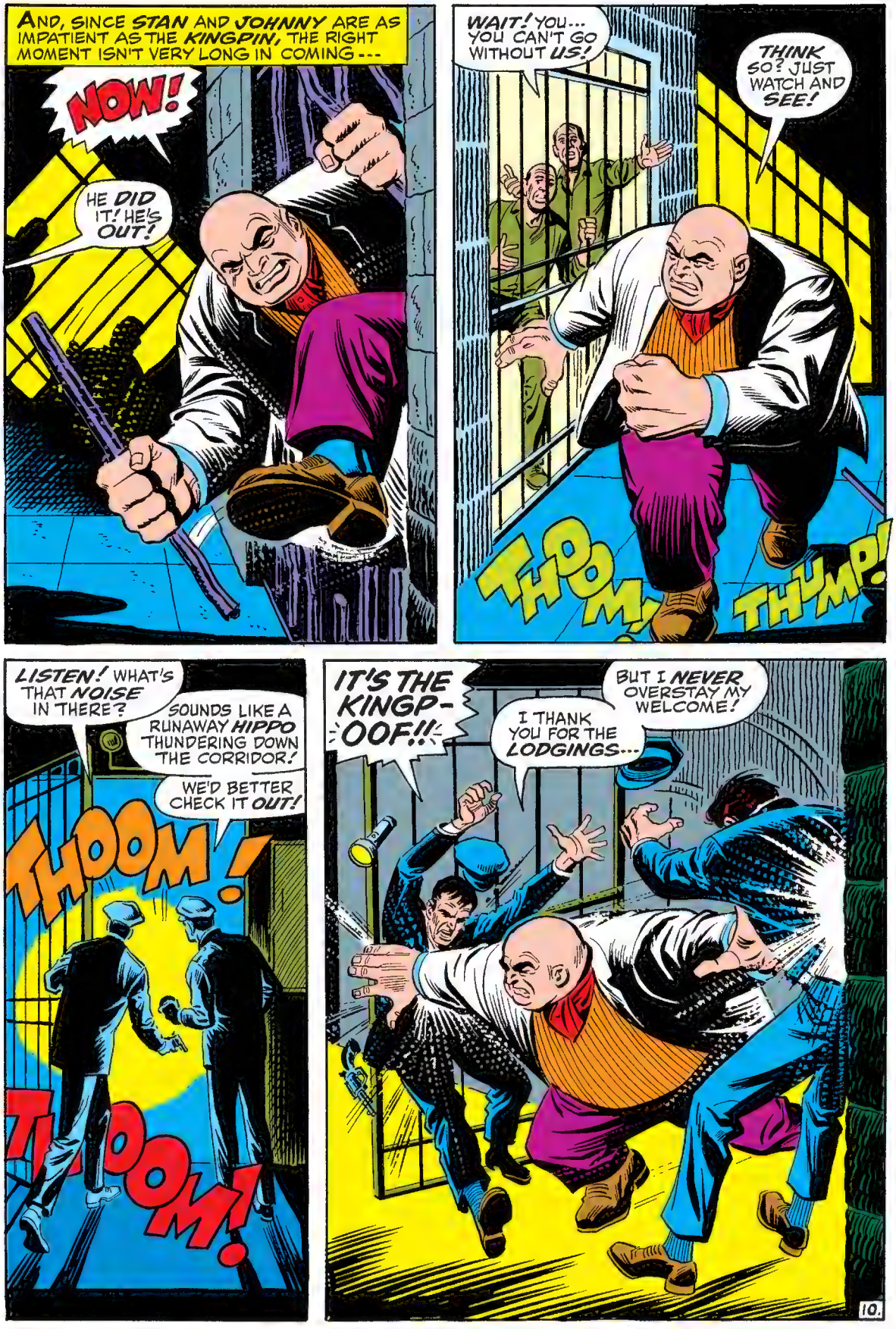
OKAY THEN... STAND THERE CHEWING YOUR CUD!
THERE MUST BE A REASON FOR THAT DISAPPEARING ACT OF YOURS... AND I'LL WAIT TILL YOU LEVEL WITH ME!
LIKE I SHOULD HAVE MY HEAD EXAMINED --- BUT MAYBE I'M JUST TOO DUMB TO WRITE YOU OFF!
SHE DOES LOVE ME! SHE DOES TRUST ME!

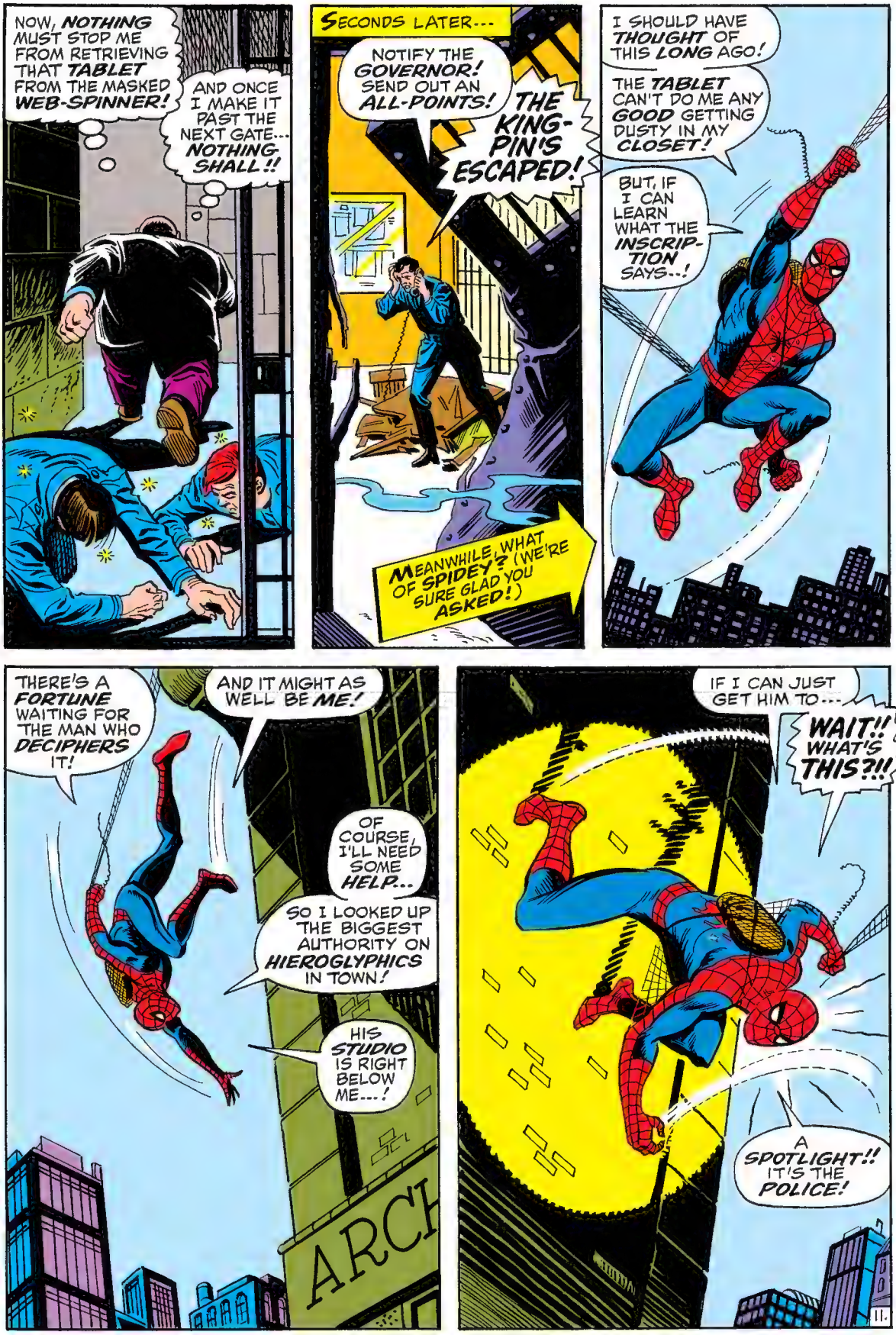
HEY! YOU'RE CRYING! WHAT BROUGHT THAT ON?
SKIP IT, MR. PARKER! IT'S JUST NO FUN--- LOSING YOUR STUPID HEART... TO SOMEONE WHO'S ALWAYS MAKING LIKE... A COWARD!
A COWARD!! YOU THINK I'M A COWARD??!
DON'T... MAKE ME ANSWER THAT... PETER!

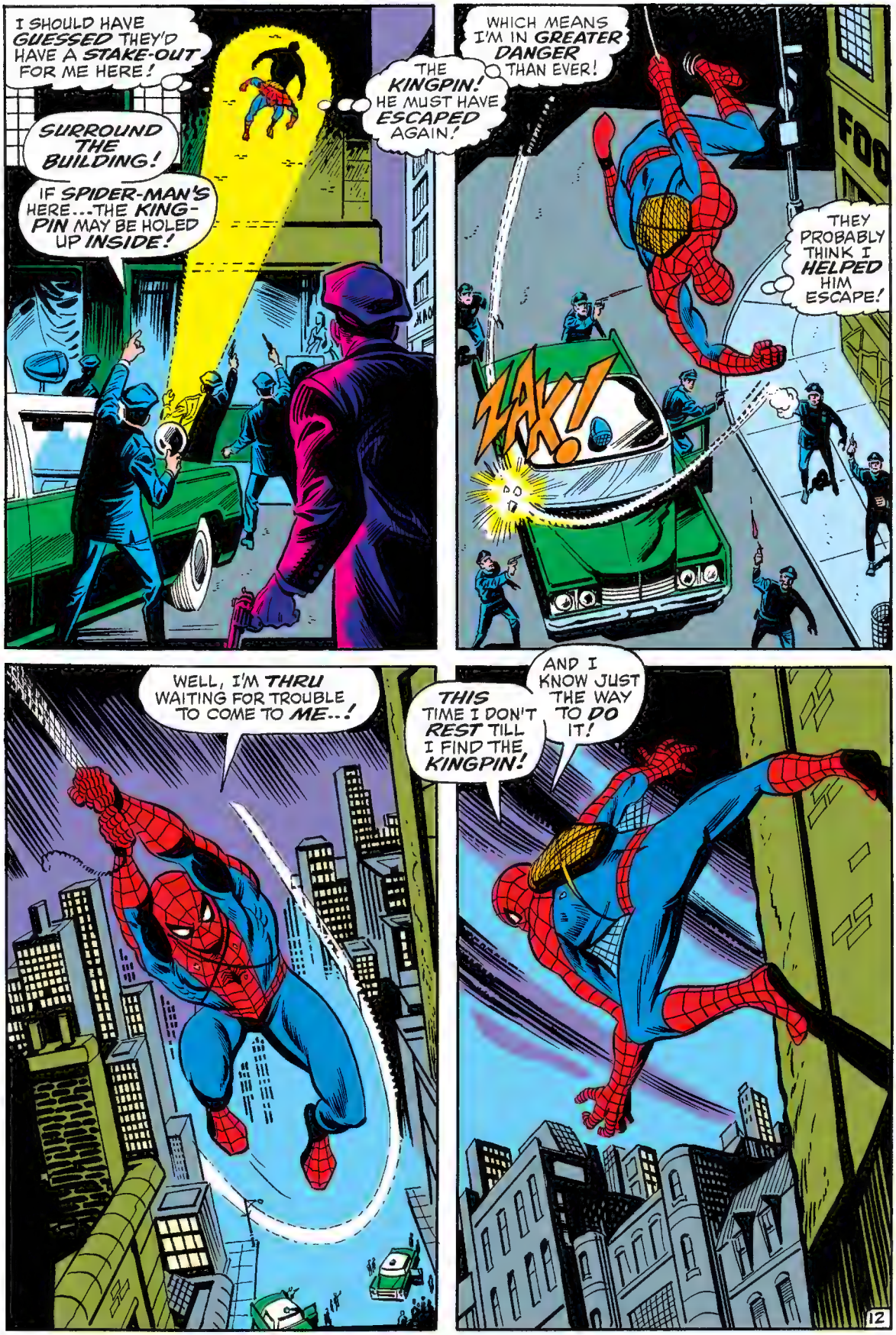
BUT, HERE'S A GENT WHO WANTS AN ANSWER---
A FINE THING WHEN I HAVE TO COMB THE TOWN, LOOKING FOR MY OWN CITY EDITOR!
WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YOU DOING HERE, ROBERTSON?
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR NEWS OF THE CAMPUS PROTESTERS, JJ!
THEY'RE INSIDE NOW... HAVING A MEETING WITH THE DEAN!

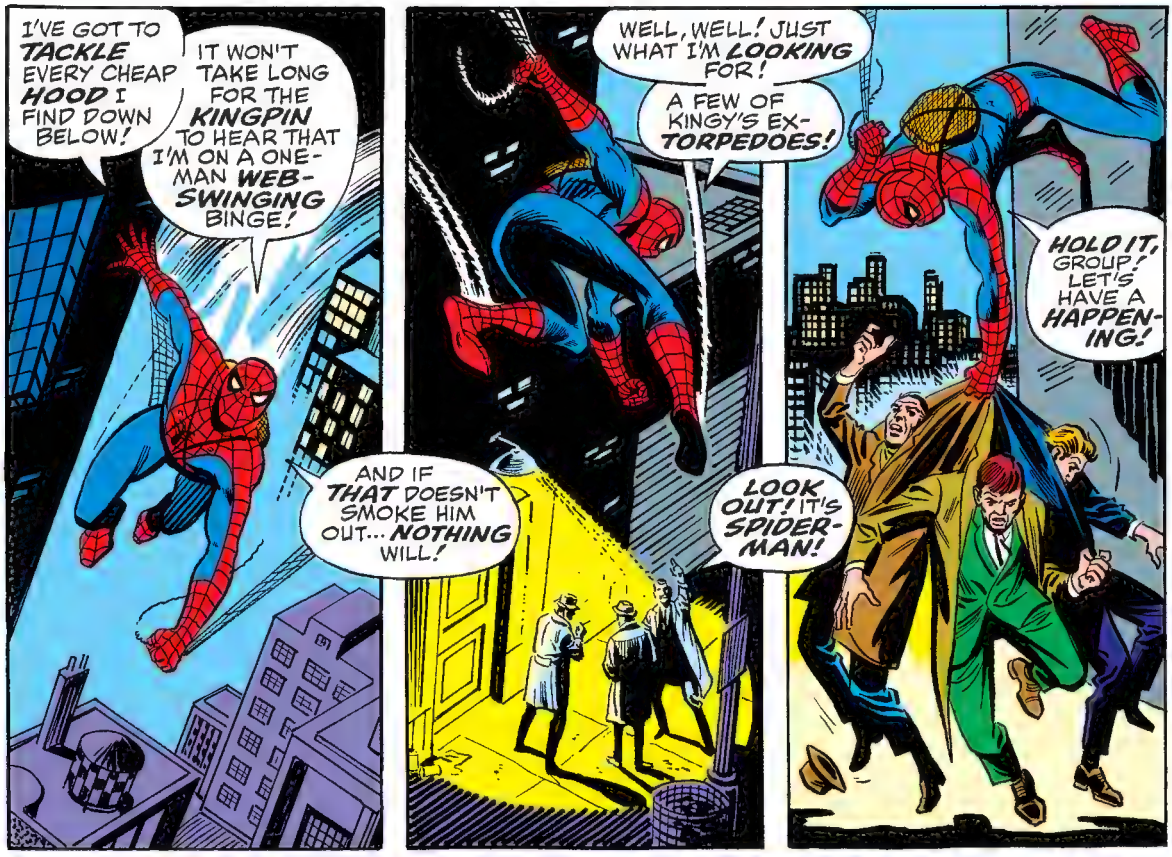
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MARBLES, MISTER?
SO LONG AS MY SON IS INVOLVED, NOBODY COVERS THIS STORY BUT ME!
THAT BLASTED WALL-CRAWLER IS STILL AT LARGE ---WITH HALF THE POLICE FORCE OUT TO GET HIM!
IF YOU WANT SPIDER-MAN ---GO FIND HIM YOURSELF!
THAT'S WHERE THE NEWS IS, ROBBIE! ANYONE CAN COVER THIS KID STUFF!
YOU--YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME THAT WAY!
DON'T BET ON IT!

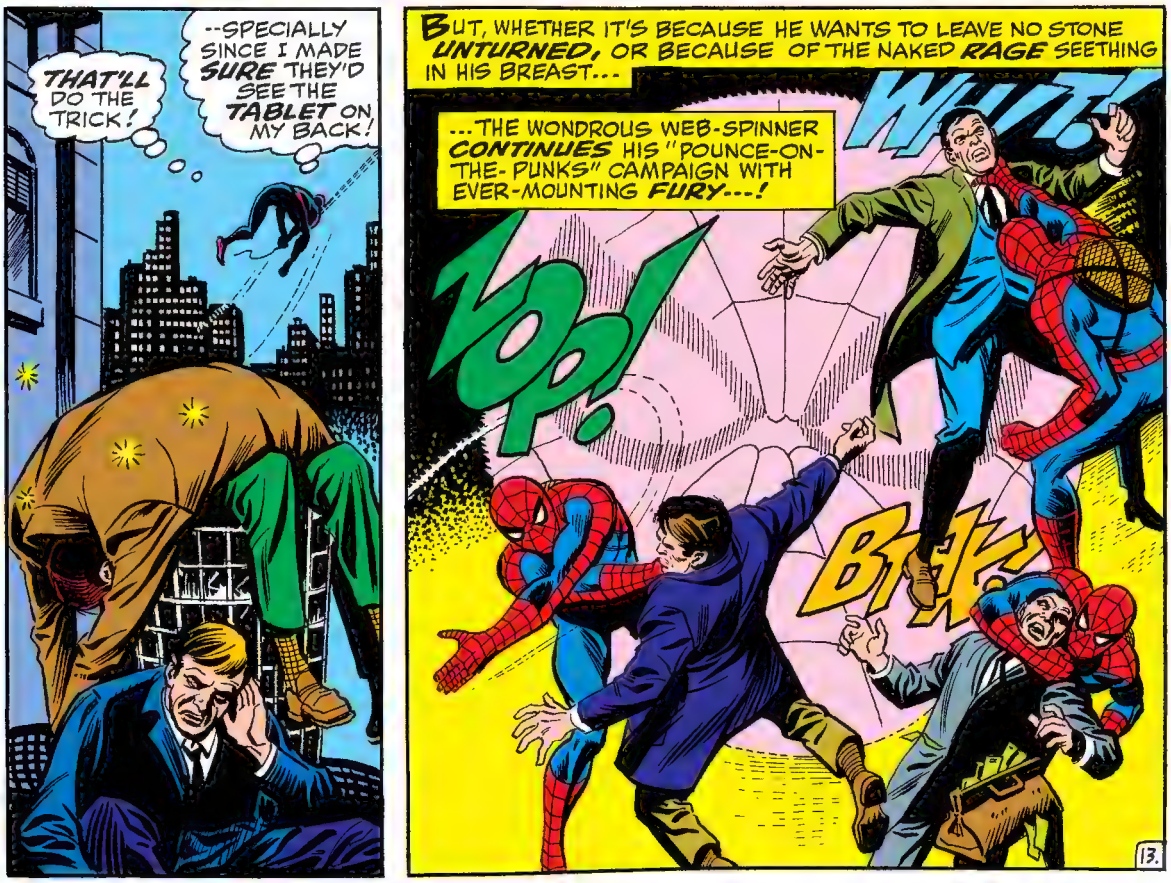
WHILE, INSIDE THE WALNUT-PANELLED CONFERENCE ROOM...
DEAN CORLISS HAS A STATE-MENT TO MAKE!
I'M PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE TRUSTEES HAVE JUST VOTED TO CONVERT THE EXHIBITION HALL INTO A LOW-RENT DORM FOR NEEDY STUDENTS!
IT'S WHAT WE WERE FIGHTING FOR! THAT MEANS...WE WON!
IT'S A HOLLOW VICTORY, SON! ALL THIS TUR-MOIL WASN'T NECESSARY!
DEAN CORLISS WAS ON YOUR SIDE ALL THE TIME!
THEN WHY DIDN'T HE TELL US?
WHY DID HE REFUSE TO MEET US?
I'M NOT BLAMELESS IN THIS MATTER!
I THOUGHT STUDENTS SHOULD BE SEEN AND NOT HEARD!
THEN, MAYBE EVERYBODY WON...A LITTLE!
I REALIZE NOW... HOW MISTAKEN I WAS!
SINCE NO DAMAGE WAS DONE... AND THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE THEFT OF THE TABLET...
THE DEAN RECOMMENDED AMNESTY FOR ALL THE PROTESTORS!
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE MAIN ISSUE ...THE LOW RENT DORM?
WE GOT IT, DAD! JUST LIKE YOU SAID WE WOULD!
I KNEW DEAN CORLISS WAS IN FAVOR OF IT ALL THE TIME!
BUT HE HAD AN UP-HILL FIGHT TO CONVINCE THE TRUSTEES!
SOMETIMES IT ISN'T EASY TO TELL... WHO YOUR REAL FRIENDS ARE!
I SURE HAD YOU PEGGED WRONG, MR. ROBERTSON!
EVEN IF YOU WORK FOR WHITEY... YOU'RE A RIGHT CAT IN MY BOOK!
MAYBE... THERE'S A LOTTA THINGS ...I GOTTA THINK ABOUT SOME MORE!
AND HERE'S SOMETHING FOR US TO THINK ABOUT... ALL 300 POUNDS OF HIM...
I'VE DONE IT! THE BARS ARE LOOSE ENOUGH TO PULL OUT NOW!
I'VE ONLY TO WAIT FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT!

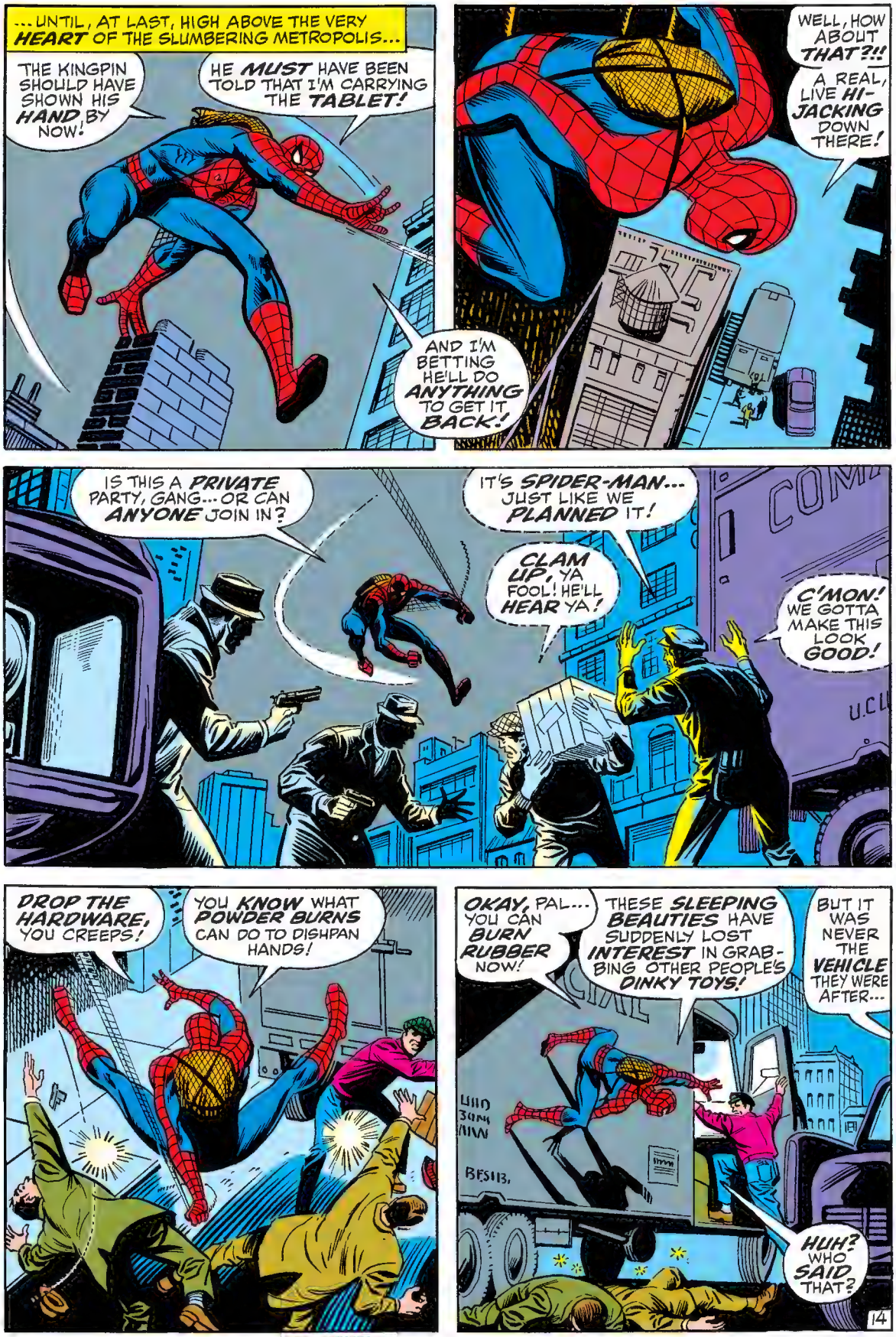

AND, SINCE STAN AND JOHNNY ARE AS IMPATIENT AS THE KINGPIN, THE RIGHT MOMENT ISN'T VERY LONG IN COMING---
NOW!
HE DID IT! HE'S OUT!
WAIT! YOU... YOU CAN'T GO WITHOUT US!
THINK SO? JUST WATCH AND SEE!
THOOM!
THUMP!
LISTEN! WHAT'S THAT NOISE IN THERE?
SOUNDS LIKE A RUNAWAY HIPPO THUNDERING DOWN THE CORRIDOR!
WE'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT!
THOOM!
THOOM!
IT'S THE KINGP-
OOF!!
I THANK YOU FOR THE LODGINGS...
BUT I NEVER OVERSTAY MY WELCOME!
10.

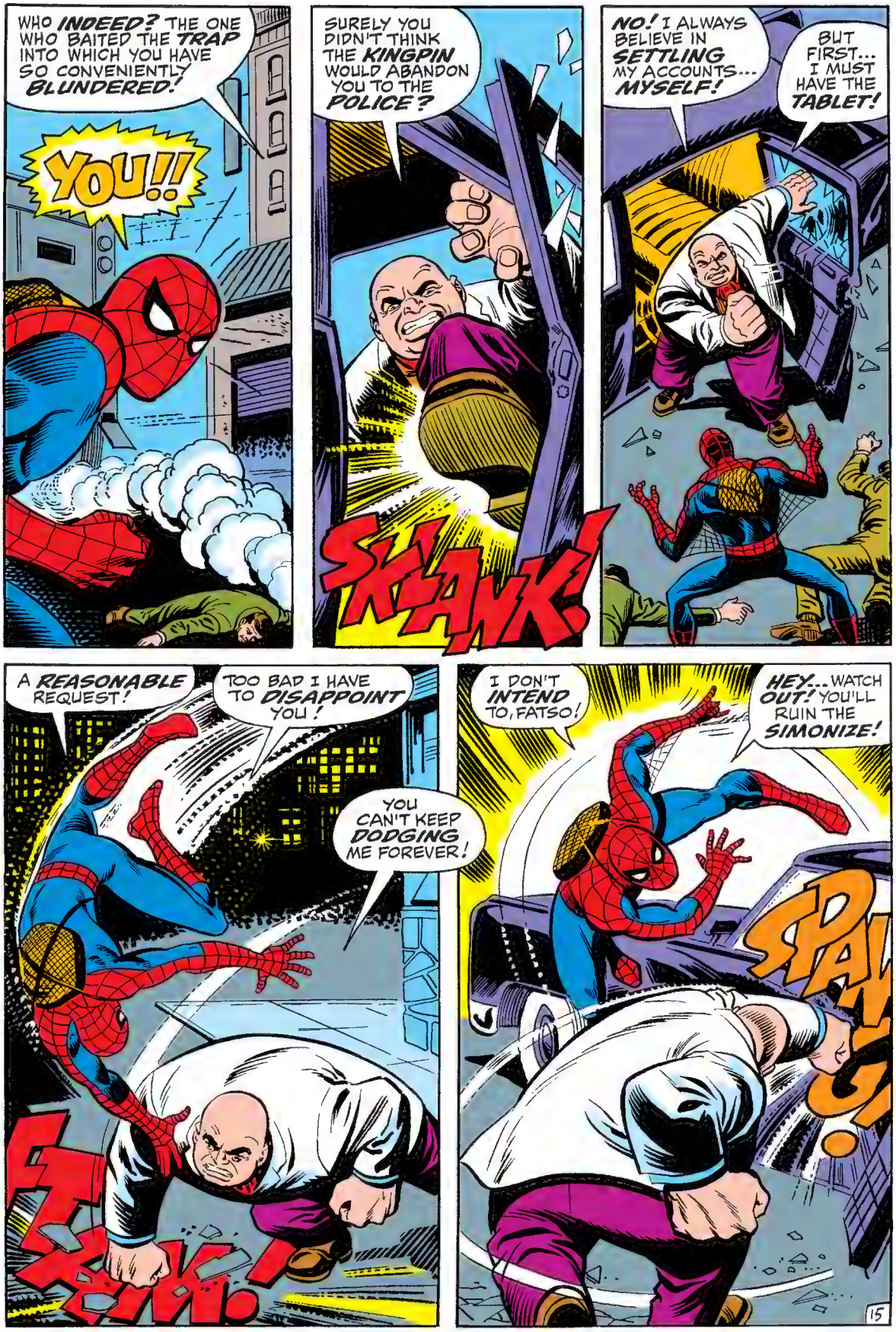

NOW, NOTHING MUST STOP ME FROM RETRIEVING THAT TABLET FROM THE MASKED WEB-SPINNER!
AND ONCE I MAKE IT PAST THE NEXT GATE... NOTHING SHALL!!
SECONDS LATER...
NOTIFY THE GOVERNOR! SEND OUT AN ALL-POINTS!
THE KING-PIN'S ESCAPED!
MEANWHILE, WHAT OF SPIDEY? (WE'RE SURE GLAD YOU ASKED!)
I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THIS LONG AGO!
THE TABLET CAN'T DO ME ANY GOOD GETTING DUSTY IN MY CLOSET!
BUT, IF I CAN LEARN WHAT THE INSCRIP-TION SAYS...!
THERE'S A FORTUNE WAITING FOR THE MAN WHO DECIPHERS IT!
AND IT MIGHT AS WELL BE ME!
OF COURSE, I'LL NEED SOME HELP...
SO I LOOKED UP THE BIGGEST AUTHORITY ON HIEROGLYPHICS IN TOWN!
HIS STUDIO IS RIGHT BELOW ME...!
ARCH
IF I CAN JUST GET HIM TO...
WAIT!! WHAT'S THIS?!!
A SPOTLIGHT!! IT'S THE POLICE!

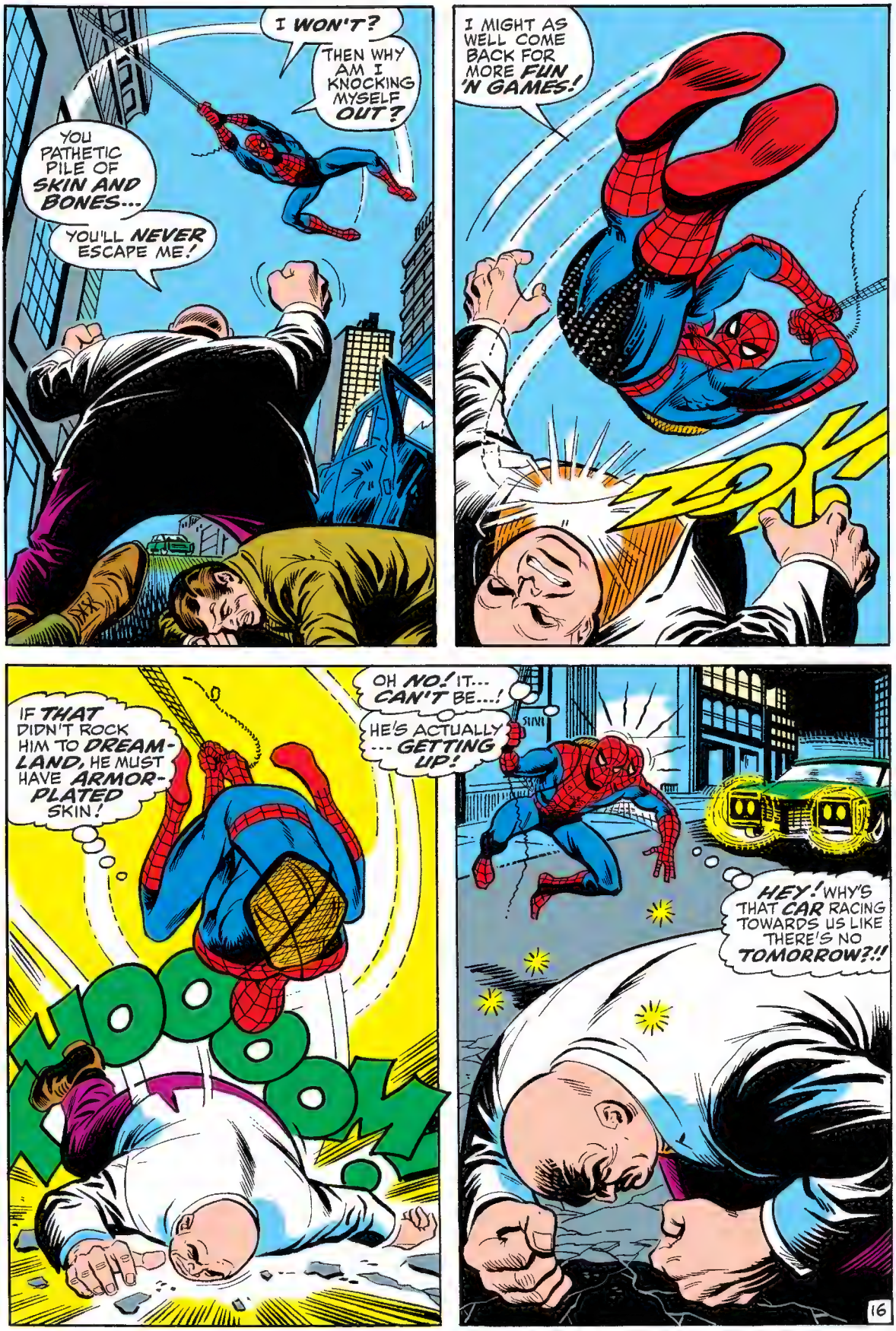

I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED THEY'D HAVE A STAKE-OUT FOR ME HERE!
SURROUND THE BUILDING!
IF SPIDER-MAN'S HERE...THE KINGPIN MAY BE HOLED UP INSIDE!
THE KINGPIN! HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED AGAIN!
WHICH MEANS I'M IN GREATER DANGER THAN EVER!
THEY PROBABLY THINK I HELPED HIM ESCAPE!
ZAK!
WELL, I'M THRU WAITING FOR TROUBLE TO COME TO ME..!
THIS TIME I DON'T REST TILL I FIND THE KINGPIN!
AND I KNOW JUST THE WAY TO DO IT!
12

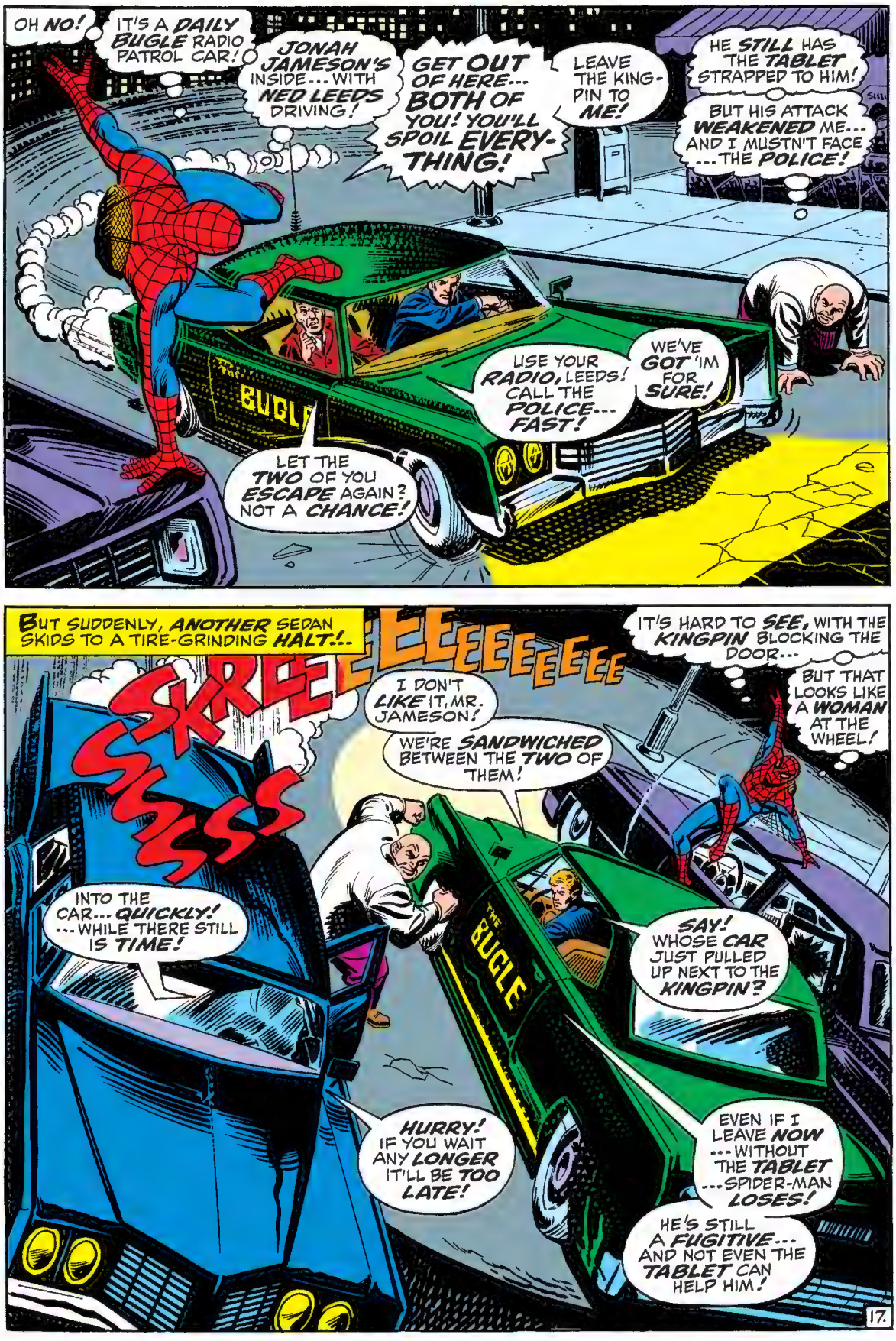

I'VE GOT TO TACKLE EVERY CHEAP HOOD I FIND DOWN BELOW!
IT WON'T TAKE LONG FOR THE KINGPIN TO HEAR THAT I'M ON A ONE-MAN WEB-SWINGING BINGE!
WELL, WELL! JUST WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
A FEW OF KINGY'S EX-TORPEDOES!
AND IF THAT DOESN'T SMOKE HIM OUT... NOTHING WILL!
LOOK OUT! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
HOLD IT, GROUP! LET'S HAVE A HAPPEN-ING!

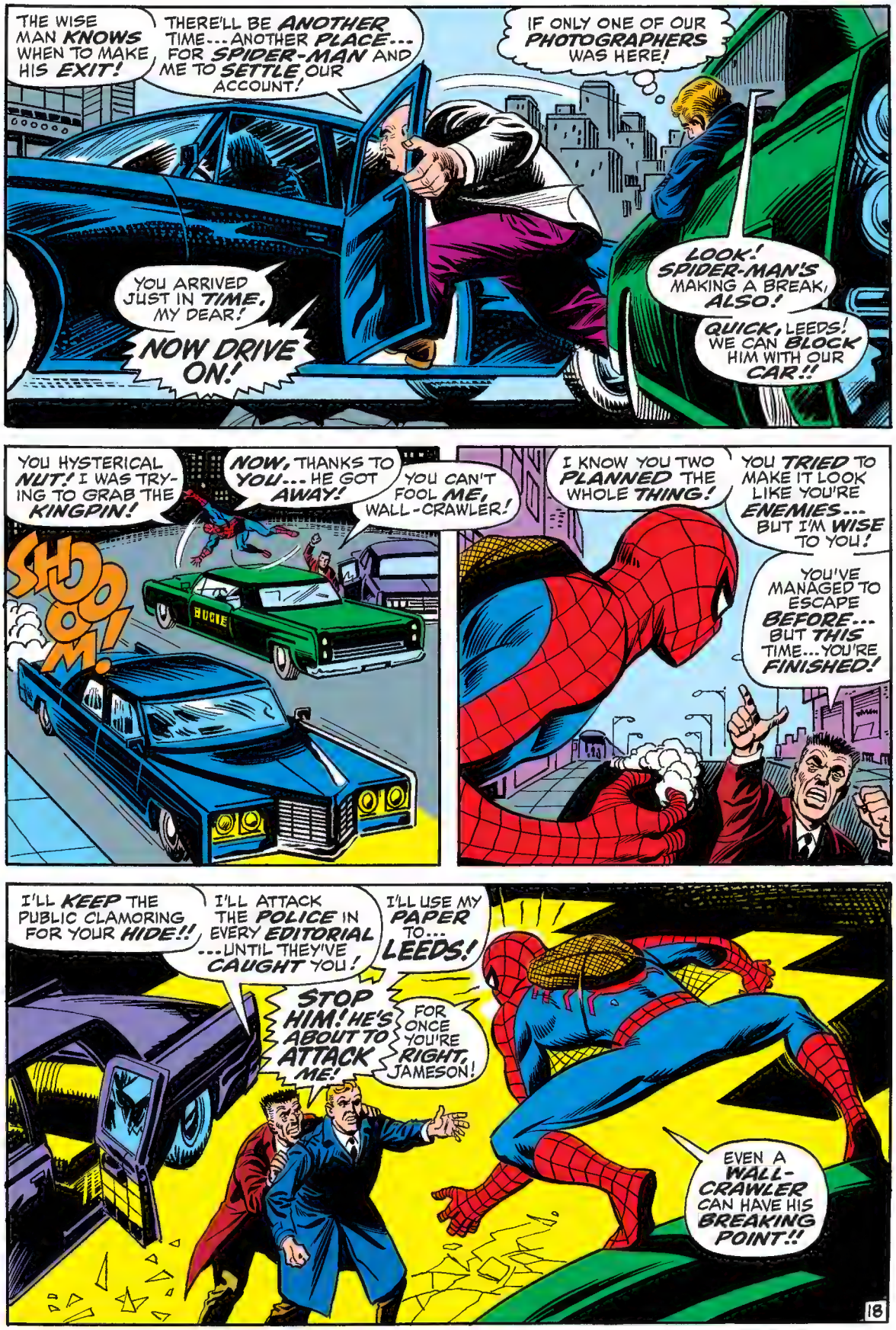

THAT'LL DO THE TRICK!
--SPECIALLY SINCE I MADE SURE THEY'D SEE THE TABLET ON MY BACK!
BUT, WHETHER IT'S BECAUSE HE WANTS TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED, OR BECAUSE OF THE NAKED RAGE SEETHING IN HIS BREAST...
...THE WONDROUS WEB-SPINNER CONTINUES HIS "POUNCE-ON-THE-PUNKS" CAMPAIGN WITH EVER-MOUNTING FURY---!
WHIT!
YOP!
BIFF!
13.


...UNTIL, AT LAST, HIGH ABOVE THE VERY HEART OF THE SLUMBERING METROPOLIS...
THE KINGPIN SHOULD HAVE SHOWN HIS HAND BY NOW!
HE MUST HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT I'M CARRYING THE TABLET!
AND I'M BETTING HE'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET IT BACK!
WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT?!!
A REAL, LIVE HI-JACKING DOWN THERE!
IS THIS A PRIVATE PARTY, GANG... OR CAN ANYONE JOIN IN?
IT'S SPIDER-MAN... JUST LIKE WE PLANNED IT!
CLAM UP, YA FOOL! HE'LL HEAR YA!
C'MON! WE GOTTA MAKE THIS LOOK GOOD!
DROP THE HARDWARE, YOU CREEPS!
YOU KNOW WHAT POWDER BURNS CAN DO TO DISHPAN HANDS!
OKAY, PAL... YOU CAN BURN RUBBER NOW!
THESE SLEEPING BEAUTIES HAVE SUDDENLY LOST INTEREST IN GRABBING OTHER PEOPLE'S DINKY TOYS!
BUT IT WAS NEVER THE VEHICLE THEY WERE AFTER...
HUH? WHO SAID THAT?
14

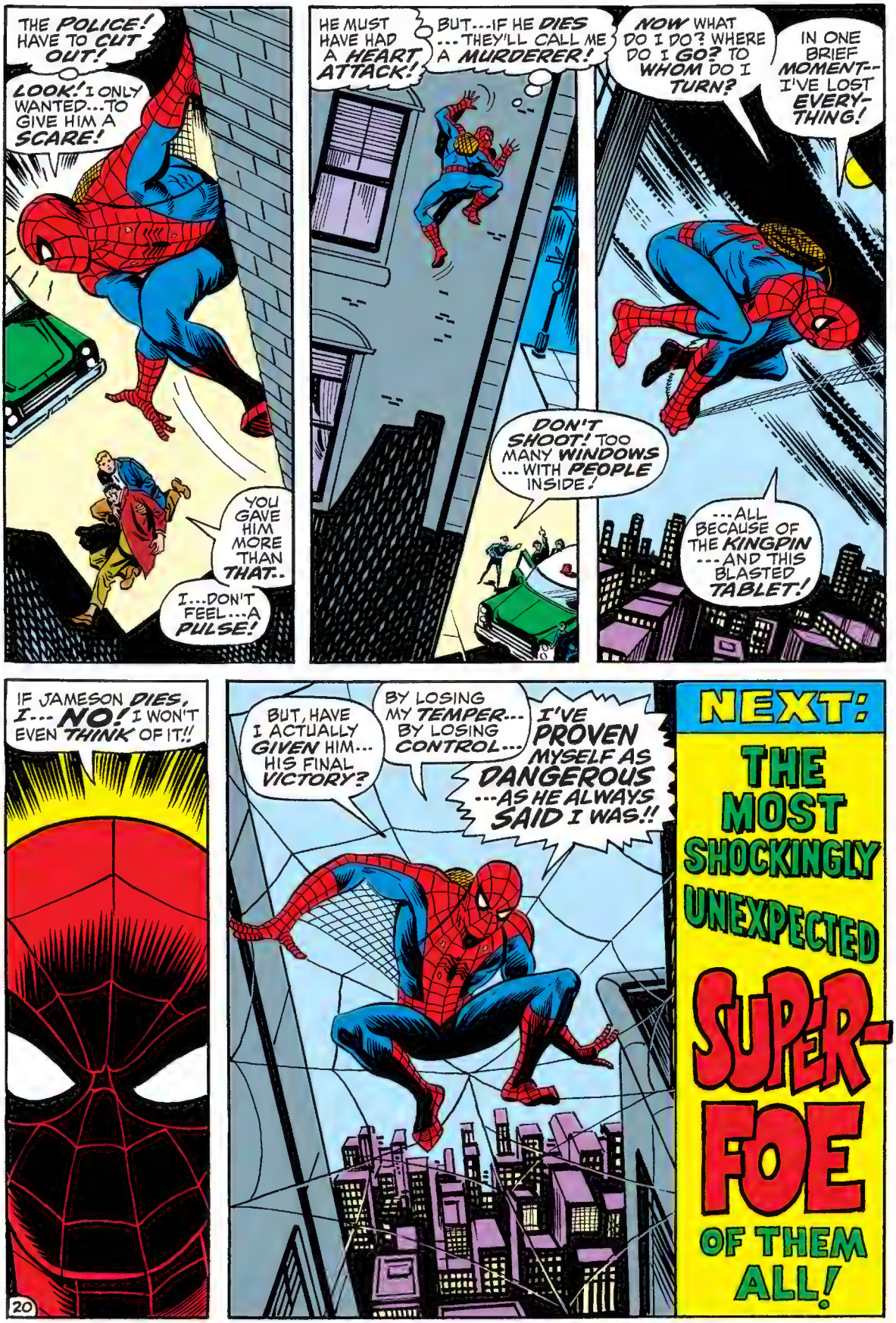

WHO INDEED? THE ONE WHO BAITED THE TRAP INTO WHICH YOU HAVE SO CONVENIENTLY BLUNDERED!
YOU!!
SURELY YOU DIDN'T THINK THE KINGPIN WOULD ABANDON YOU TO THE POLICE?
SKLANK!
NO! I ALWAYS BELIEVE IN SETTLING MY ACCOUNTS... MYSELF!
BUT FIRST... I MUST HAVE THE TABLET!
A REASONABLE REQUEST!
TOO BAD I HAVE TO DISAPPOINT YOU!
YOU CAN'T KEEP DODGING ME FOREVER!
I DON'T INTEND TO, FATSO!
HEY... WATCH OUT! YOU'LL RUIN THE SIMONIZE!
SPAN
15


I WON'T?
THEN WHY AM I KNOCKING MYSELF OUT?
YOU PATHETIC PILE OF SKIN AND BONES...
YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE ME!
I MIGHT AS WELL COME BACK FOR MORE FUN 'N GAMES!
ZOK!
IF THAT DIDN'T ROCK HIM TO DREAM-LAND, HE MUST HAVE ARMOR-PLATED SKIN!
OH NO! IT... CAN'T BE...!
HE'S ACTUALLY ...GETTING UP!
HOOOOK!
HEY! WHY'S THAT CAR RACING TOWARDS US LIKE THERE'S NO TOMORROW?!!
16

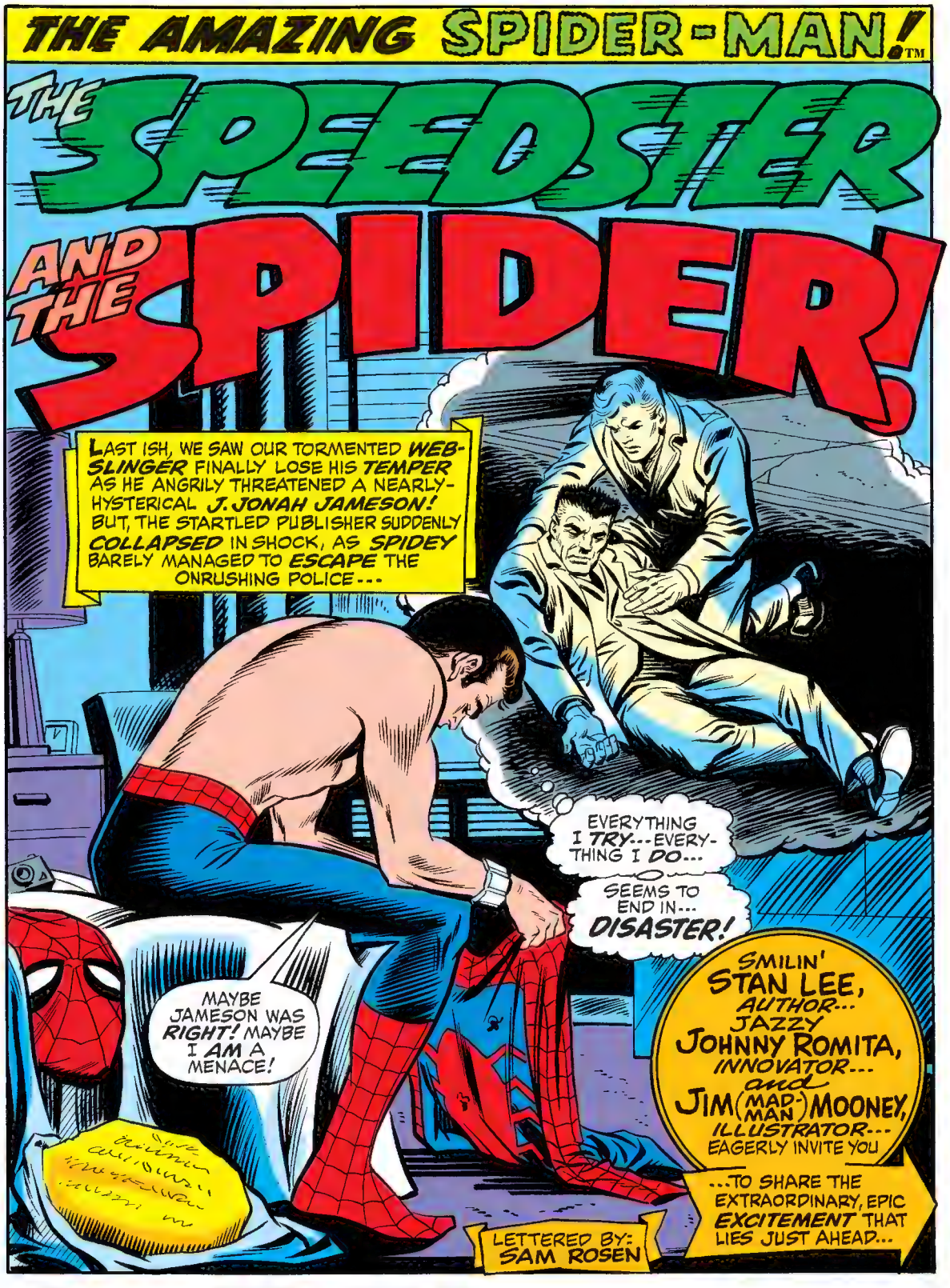

OH NO!
IT'S A DAILY BUGLE RADIO PATROL CAR!
JONAH JAMESON'S INSIDE--- WITH NED LEEDS DRIVING!
GET OUT OF HERE--- BOTH OF YOU! YOU'LL SPOIL EVERY-THING!
LEAVE THE KING-PIN TO ME!
HE STILL HAS THE TABLET STRAPPED TO HIM!
BUT HIS ATTACK WEAKENED ME--- AND I MUSTN'T FACE ---THE POLICE!
USE YOUR RADIO, LEEDS! CALL THE POLICE--- FAST!
WE'VE GOT 'IM FOR SURE!
LET THE TWO OF YOU ESCAPE AGAIN? NOT A CHANCE!
BUT SUDDENLY, ANOTHER SEDAN SKIDS TO A TIRE-GRINDING HALT!--
SKREEEEEEEEEEE
SKUSSS
I DON'T LIKE IT, MR. JAMESON!
WE'RE SANDWICHED BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM!
IT'S HARD TO SEE, WITH THE KINGPIN BLOCKING THE DOOR---
BUT THAT LOOKS LIKE A WOMAN AT THE WHEEL!
INTO THE CAR--- QUICKLY! ---WHILE THERE STILL IS TIME!
SAY! WHOSE CAR JUST PULLED UP NEXT TO THE KINGPIN?
HURRY! IF YOU WAIT ANY LONGER IT'LL BE TOO LATE!
EVEN IF I LEAVE NOW ---WITHOUT THE TABLET ---SPIDER-MAN LOSES!
HE'S STILL A FUGITIVE--- AND NOT EVEN THE TABLET CAN HELP HIM!
17


THE WISE MAN KNOWS WHEN TO MAKE HIS EXIT!
THERE'LL BE ANOTHER TIME... ANOTHER PLACE... FOR SPIDER-MAN AND ME TO SETTLE OUR ACCOUNT!
IF ONLY ONE OF OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS WAS HERE!
YOU ARRIVED JUST IN TIME, MY DEAR!
NOW DRIVE ON!
LOOK! SPIDER-MAN'S MAKING A BREAK, ALSO!
QUICK, LEEDS! WE CAN BLOCK HIM WITH OUR CAR!!
YOU HYSTERICAL NUT! I WAS TRYING TO GRAB THE KINGPIN!
NOW, THANKS TO YOU... HE GOT AWAY!
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME, WALL-CRAWLER!
SHOOM!
I KNOW YOU TWO PLANNED THE WHOLE THING!
YOU TRIED TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENEMIES... BUT I'M WISE TO YOU!
YOU'VE MANAGED TO ESCAPE BEFORE... BUT THIS TIME... YOU'RE FINISHED!
I'LL KEEP THE PUBLIC CLAMORING FOR YOUR HIDE!!
I'LL ATTACK THE POLICE IN EVERY EDITORIAL ...UNTIL THEY'VE CAUGHT YOU!
I'LL USE MY PAPER TO... LEEDS!
STOP HIM! HE'S ABOUT TO ATTACK ME!
FOR ONCE YOU'RE RIGHT, JAMESON!
EVEN A WALL-CRAWLER CAN HAVE HIS BREAKING POINT!!

BEAT IT, LEEDS!
THIS IS BETWEEN ME AND THAT HUMAN HATE MACHINE!
NO! NO!
YOU'VE BEEN ON MY BACK EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER--
AND FOR NO REASON AT ALL!
SO MAYBE IT'S TIME I GIVE YOU A REASON!
SPIDER-MAN... DON'T!
LET'S GET TO THE NITTY GRITTY, FLAT-HEAD!..
EYEBALL TO EYEBALL--
NO! NO! NO!
NNNO...=UHHHH!=
THIS IS TOUGHER ON ME THAN YOU!
I HAVE TO LOOK AT... HEY!!
JAMESON!! WHAT IS IT??
SOMETHING... HAPPENED TO HIM!!
HE...HE'S OUT LIKE A LIGHT!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM??
19.


THE POLICE! HAVE TO CUT OUT!
LOOK! I ONLY WANTED...TO GIVE HIM A SCARE!
YOU GAVE HIM MORE THAN THAT..
I...DON'T FEEL...A PULSE!
HE MUST HAVE HAD A HEART ATTACK!
BUT...IF HE DIES ...THEY'LL CALL ME A MURDERER!
DON'T SHOOT! TOO MANY WINDOWS ...WITH PEOPLE INSIDE!
NOW WHAT DO I DO? WHERE DO I GO? TO WHOM DO I TURN?
IN ONE BRIEF MOMENT-- I'VE LOST EVERY-THING!
...ALL BECAUSE OF THE KINGPIN ---AND THIS BLASTED TABLET!
IF JAMESON DIES, I--- NO! I WON'T EVEN THINK OF IT!!
BUT, HAVE I ACTUALLY GIVEN HIM... HIS FINAL VICTORY?
BY LOSING MY TEMPER... BY LOSING CONTROL...
I'VE PROVEN MYSELF AS DANGEROUS ...AS HE ALWAYS SAID I WAS!!
NEXT:
THE MOST SHOCKINGLY UNEXPECTED
SUPER-FOE
OF THEM ALL!

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
71
APR
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
ROMITA
AND NOW...
QUICKSILVER!


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THE SPEEDSTER AND THE SPIDER!
LAST ISH, WE SAW OUR TORMENTED WEB-SLINGER FINALLY LOSE HIS TEMPER AS HE ANGRILY THREATENED A NEARLY-HYSTERICAL J. JONAH JAMESON! BUT, THE STARTLED PUBLISHER SUDDENLY COLLAPSED IN SHOCK, AS SPIDEY BARELY MANAGED TO ESCAPE THE ONRUSHING POLICE---
EVERYTHING I TRY---EVERY-THING I DO---
SEEMS TO END IN... DISASTER!
MAYBE JAMESON WAS RIGHT! MAYBE I AM A MENACE!
SMILIN' STAN LEE, AUTHOR... JAZZY JOHNNY ROMITA, INNOVATOR... and JIM (MAD-MAN) MOONEY, ILLUSTRATOR... EAGERLY INVITE YOU
...TO SHARE THE EXTRAORDINARY, EPIC EXCITEMENT THAT LIES JUST AHEAD...
LETTERED BY: SAM ROSEN

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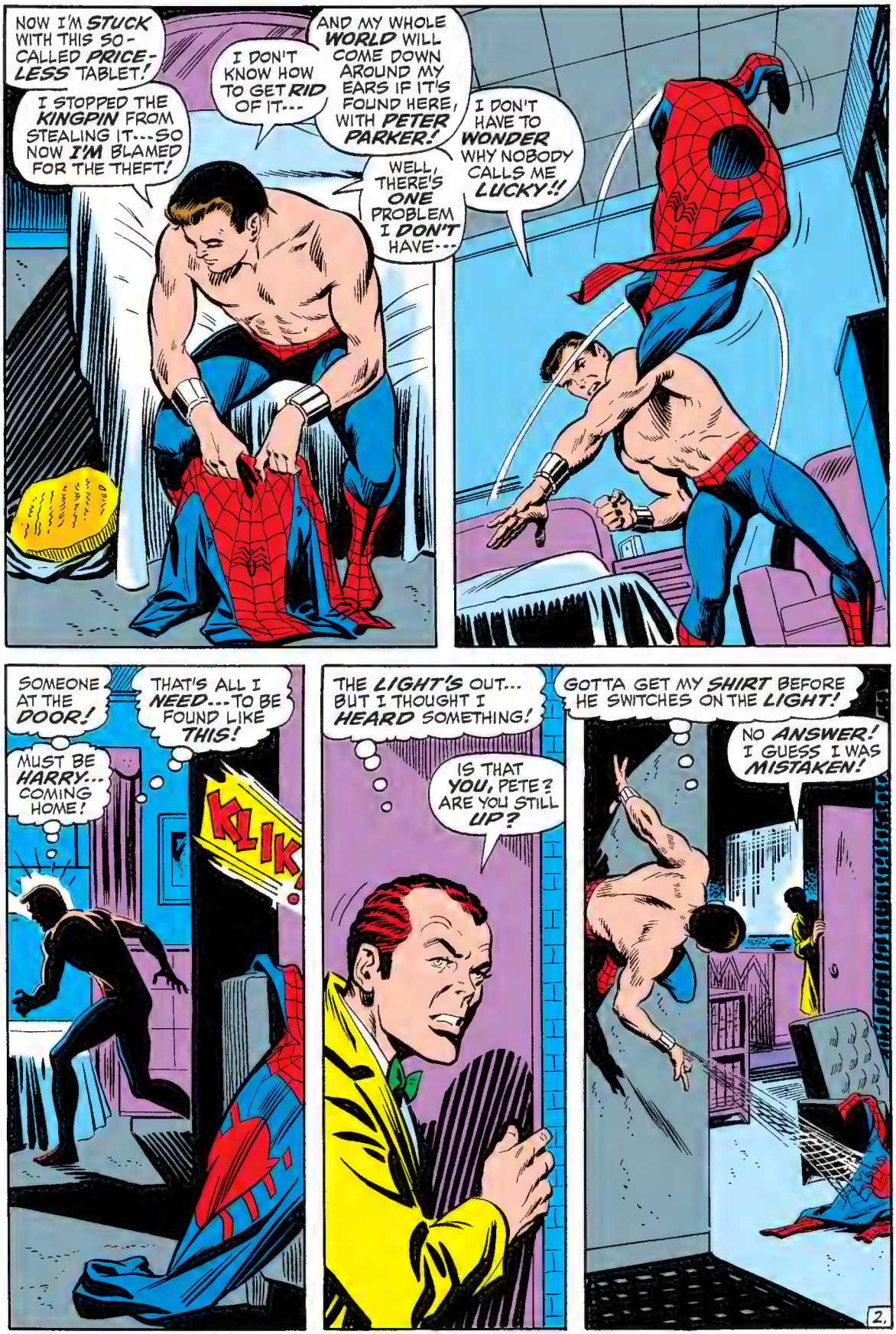
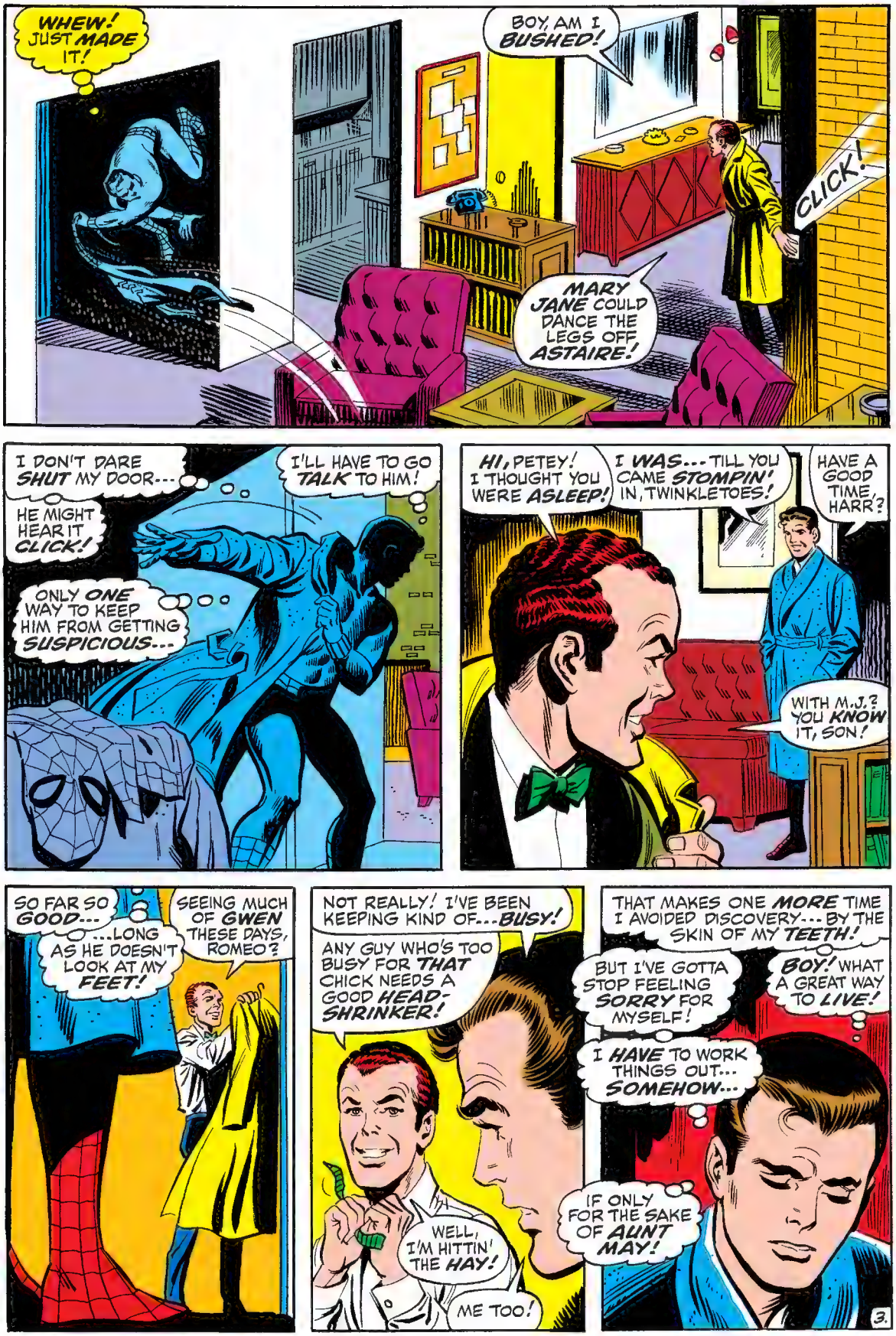
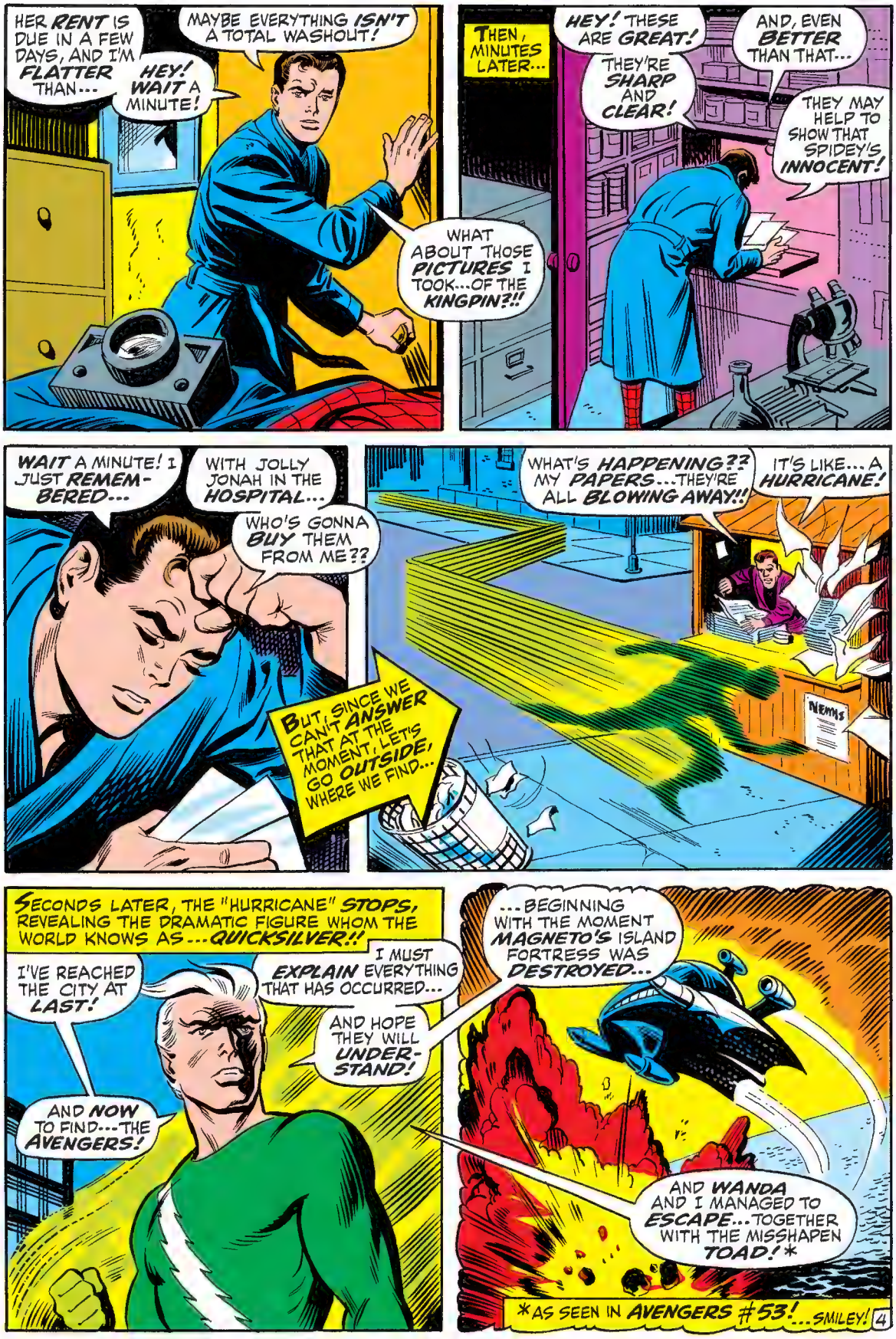
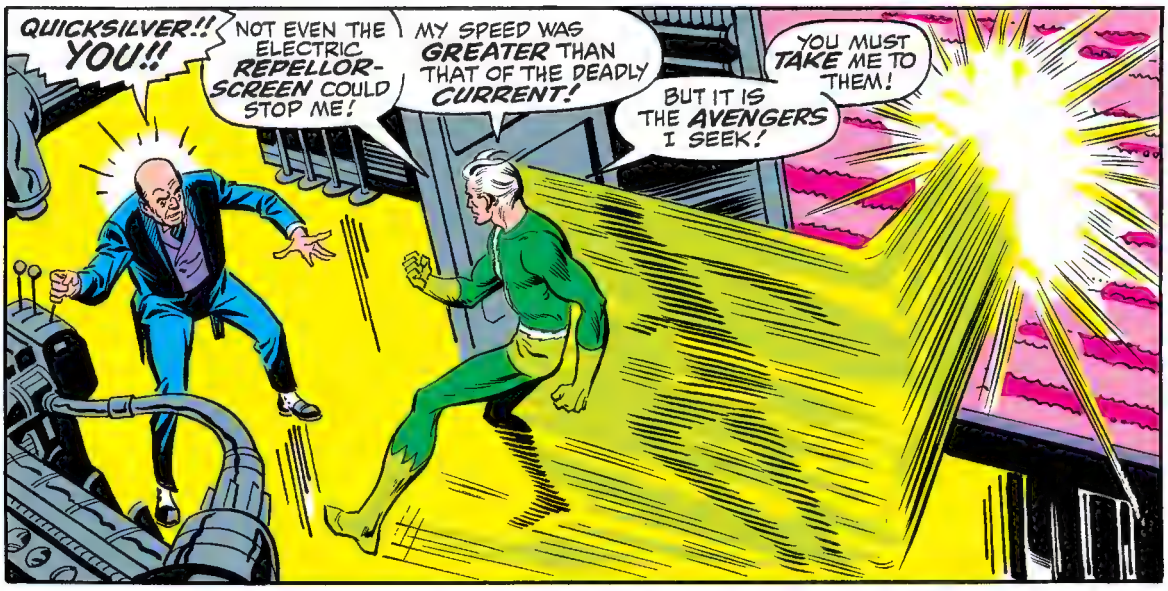

NOW I'M STUCK WITH THIS SO-CALLED PRICE-LESS TABLET!
I STOPPED THE KINGPIN FROM STEALING IT---SO NOW I'M BLAMED FOR THE THEFT!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET RID OF IT---
AND MY WHOLE WORLD WILL COME DOWN AROUND MY EARS IF IT'S FOUND HERE, WITH PETER PARKER!
WELL, THERE'S ONE PROBLEM I DON'T HAVE---
I DON'T HAVE TO WONDER WHY NOBODY CALLS ME LUCKY!!
SOMEONE AT THE DOOR!
THAT'S ALL I NEED---TO BE FOUND LIKE THIS!
MUST BE HARRY... COMING HOME!
KLIK
THE LIGHT'S OUT... BUT I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING!
IS THAT YOU, PETE? ARE YOU STILL UP?
GOTTA GET MY SHIRT BEFORE HE SWITCHES ON THE LIGHT!
NO ANSWER! I GUESS I WAS MISTAKEN!
2.


WHEW! JUST MADE IT!
BOY, AM I BUSHED!
CLICK!
MARY JANE COULD DANCE THE LEGS OFF ASTAIRE!
I DON'T DARE SHUT MY DOOR---
HE MIGHT HEAR IT CLICK!
I'LL HAVE TO GO TALK TO HIM!
ONLY ONE WAY TO KEEP HIM FROM GETTING SUSPICIOUS---
HI, PETEY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE ASLEEP!
I WAS--- TILL YOU CAME STOMPIN' IN, TWINKLETOES!
HAVE A GOOD TIME, HARR?
WITH M.J.? YOU KNOW IT, SON!
SO FAR SO GOOD---
---LONG AS HE DOESN'T LOOK AT MY FEET!
SEEING MUCH OF GWEN THESE DAYS, ROMEO?
NOT REALLY! I'VE BEEN KEEPING KIND OF---BUSY!
ANY GUY WHO'S TOO BUSY FOR THAT CHICK NEEDS A GOOD HEAD-SHRINKER!
WELL, I'M HITTIN' THE HAY!
ME TOO!
THAT MAKES ONE MORE TIME I AVOIDED DISCOVERY--- BY THE SKIN OF MY TEETH!
BUT I'VE GOTTA STOP FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF!
BOY! WHAT A GREAT WAY TO LIVE!
I HAVE TO WORK THINGS OUT... SOMEHOW...
IF ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF AUNT MAY!
3.

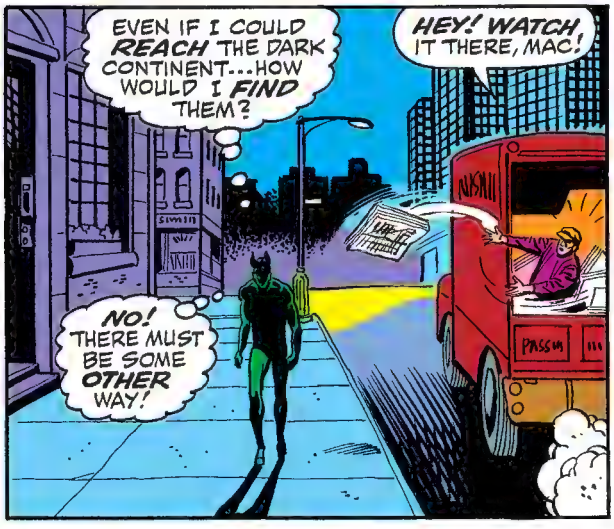

HER RENT IS DUE IN A FEW DAYS, AND I'M FLATTER THAN---
MAYBE EVERYTHING ISN'T A TOTAL WASHOUT!
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
WHAT ABOUT THOSE PICTURES I TOOK...OF THE KINGPIN?!!
THEN, MINUTES LATER...
HEY! THESE ARE GREAT!
AND, EVEN BETTER THAN THAT...
THEY'RE SHARP AND CLEAR!
THEY MAY HELP TO SHOW THAT SPIDEY'S INNOCENT!
WAIT A MINUTE! I JUST REMEMBERED---
WITH JOLLY JONAH IN THE HOSPITAL...
WHO'S GONNA BUY THEM FROM ME??
BUT, SINCE WE CAN'T ANSWER THAT AT THE MOMENT, LET'S GO OUTSIDE, WHERE WE FIND...
WHAT'S HAPPENING?? MY PAPERS...THEY'RE ALL BLOWING AWAY!!
IT'S LIKE...A HURRICANE!
NEWS
SECONDS LATER, THE "HURRICANE" STOPS, REVEALING THE DRAMATIC FIGURE WHOM THE WORLD KNOWS AS---QUICKSILVER!!
I'VE REACHED THE CITY AT LAST!
I MUST EXPLAIN EVERYTHING THAT HAS OCCURRED...
AND HOPE THEY WILL UNDERSTAND!
AND NOW TO FIND---THE AVENGERS!
...BEGINNING WITH THE MOMENT MAGNETO'S ISLAND FORTRESS WAS DESTROYED...
AND WANDA AND I MANAGED TO ESCAPE...TOGETHER WITH THE MISSHAPEN TOAD!*
*AS SEEN IN AVENGERS #53!...SMILEY!
4

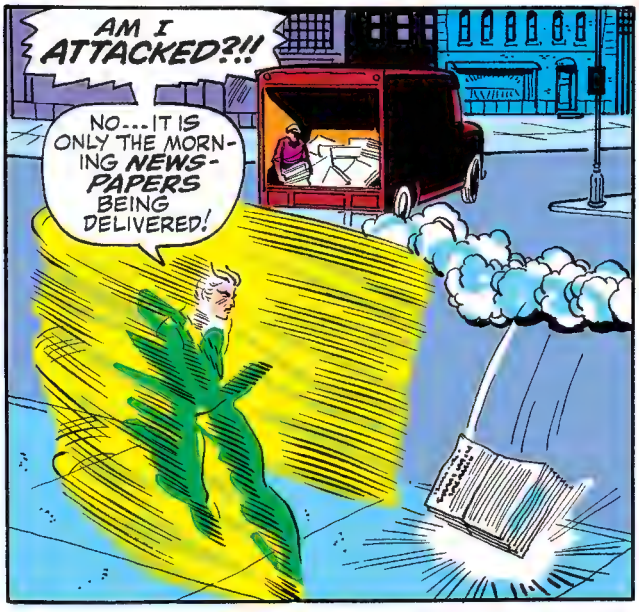
"WE CRASH-LANDED ATOP AN ISOLATED PEAK IN THE ADIRONDACKS..."
THE SHIP IS WRECKED!! IT MAY NEVER FLY AGAIN!
UNLESS YOU'RE UP ON OUR OTHER MARVEL MAGS, THESE CHARACTERS ARE NEW TO YOU! BUT DON'T WORRY--YOU'LL STILL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE STORY WITH EASE! --SOLICITOUS STAN.
DO NOT BE CONCERNED, MY SISTER!
AT LEAST WE ARE SAFE!
SAFE, PIETRO? SAFE TO DO WHAT ...TO GO WHERE?
ARE WE NOT STILL... OUTCASTS?
IF ONLY WE COULD PROVE THAT WE ARE NOT EVIL!
WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO OBEY HIM!
EVERYTHING WAS THE FAULT OF MAGNETO!
THE TOAD SPEAKS THE TRUTH...
BUT WHO WOULD BELIEVE US?
THE AVENGERS WOULD BELIEVE! THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND!
DID THEY NOT ACCEPT US IN THE PAST?
BUT PIETRO ...THINK OF THE DANGER!
WHAT IS DANGER...TO THOSE WHO WOULD BE REDEEMED?!!
5.

WE CANNOT... WE SHALL NOT LIVE LIKE HUNTED BEASTS!!
REMAIN HERE, MY SISTER! REMAIN UNTIL...
...I RETURN ONCE MORE!!
THUS, WITH A SUDDEN BURST OF INCOMPREHENSIBLE SPEED, THE FASTEST LIVING BEING OF ALL HURTLES TOWARDS THE HEART OF NEW YORK---
---LEAVING HIS WAN AND LOVELY SISTER IN THE CARE OF THE TRAGIC TOAD..!
HE WILL NOT FAIL US, WANDA!
WE MUST BOTH HAVE FAITH!
MINUTES LATER, A METEORIC FIGURE ZOOMS TO THE TOP OF AVENGERS' HQ...
THE INTRUDER ALARM!
SOMEONE IS UPON THE ROOF!!
I MUST THROW THE REPELLOR-SWITCH... AT ONCE!
6.


QUICKSILVER!! YOU!!
NOT EVEN THE ELECTRIC REPELLOR-SCREEN COULD STOP ME!
MY SPEED WAS GREATER THAN THAT OF THE DEADLY CURRENT!
BUT IT IS THE AVENGERS I SEEK!
YOU MUST TAKE ME TO THEM!

BUT...THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE, PIETRO!! THEY ARE IN AFRICA!*
* DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT! SEE FOR YOURSELF IN AVENGERS #62! ...SOFT-SELL STAN.
THEN... MY MISSION HAS BEEN... IN VAIN!


EVEN IF I COULD REACH THE DARK CONTINENT...HOW WOULD I FIND THEM?
HEY! WATCH IT THERE, MAC!
NO! THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER WAY!


AM I ATTACKED?!!
NO... IT IS ONLY THE MORNING NEWSPAPERS BEING DELIVERED!

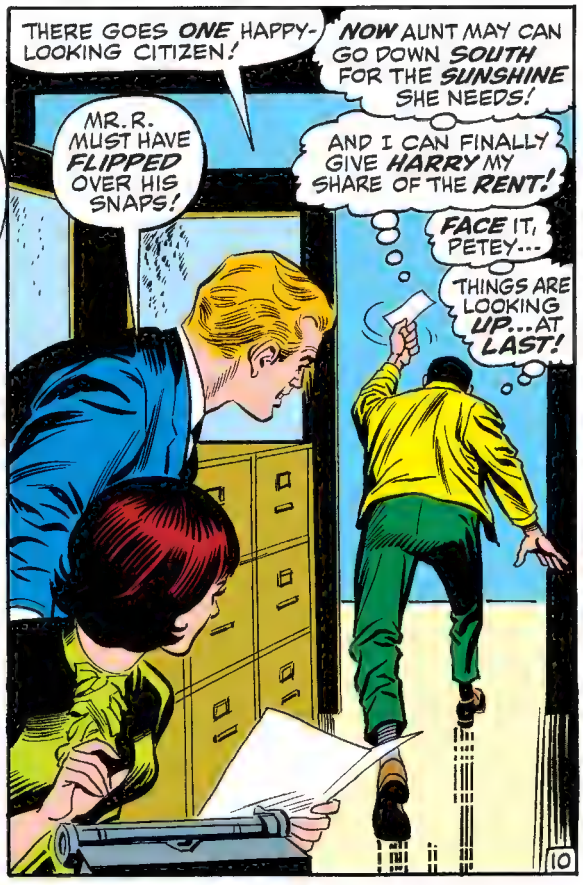
SPIDER-MAN! A FUGITIVE FROM THE LAW??
I MUST LEARN MORE ABOUT THAT...!!
DAILY BUGLE
SPIDER-MAN WANTED!

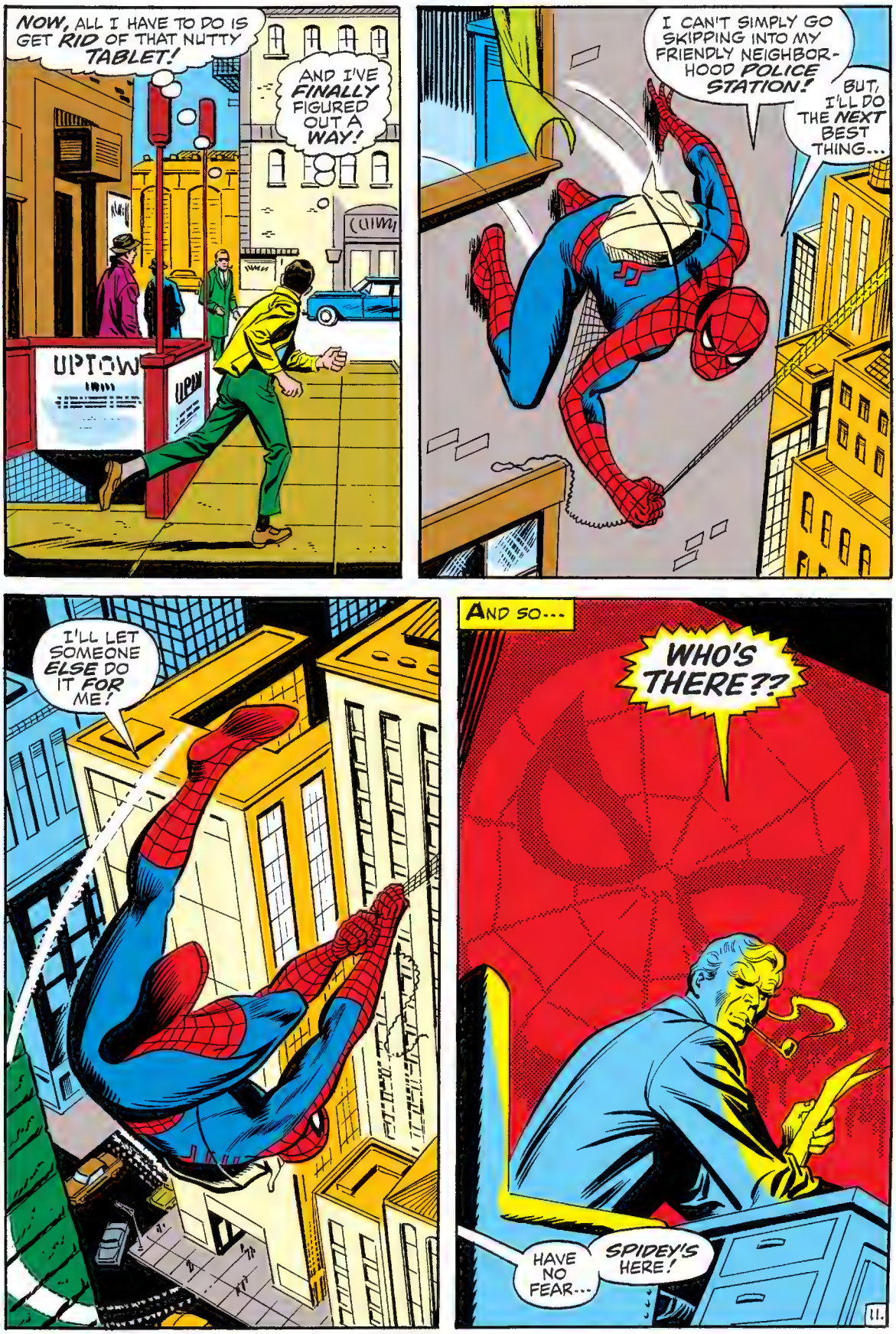
IN TRUTH, HE IS A WANTED CRIMINAL!
BUT WHO COULD HAVE THE POWER TO APPREHEND SUCH A MAN?
WHO... BUT QUICK-SILVER?
THE DAILY GLOBE
SPIDER-MAN WANTED!
FATE HAS GIVEN ME THE MEANS TO REDEEM MYSELF AT LAST!
AND NOW, AS YOU BEGIN TO ANTICIPATE WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN NEXT, LET'S VISIT AN EXPENSIVE, EAST SIDE HOSPITAL, WHERE WE HEAR...
MR. JAMESON IS RESTING AT THE MOMENT...
HIS CONDITION IS LISTED AS FAIR, MR. ROBERTSON!
ACTUALLY, HE SUFFERED NOTHING MORE THAN A CASE OF SHOCK...
BUT HE'LL NEED COMPLETE REST FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS!
WEEKS DID YOU SAY?
THEN, THAT MEANS...
---I'LL HAVE TO TAKE OVER HIS DUTIES!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, HE MUMBLED SOMETHING TO THAT EFFECT, WHEN...
OH! IT'S JOHN JAMESON!
DOCTOR! HOW IS MY FATHER?
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, COLONEL!
HE'S RESTING COMFORTABLY!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, ROBBIE! I KNEW YOU'D BE AT HIS SIDE!
BUT, HOW DID IT HAPPEN? I CAN'T BELIEVE SPIDER-MAN REALLY ATTACKED HIM!
I DON'T BELIEVE HE DID, JOHN!
IT WAS MORE OF A THREAT... WHICH ACCIDENTALLY BACKFIRED!
I'D BETTER BE LEAVING NOW!
I'LL HAVE A HECTIC DAY TOMORROW...WITH YOUR FATHER ABSENT!
THINGS WILL BE IN GOOD HANDS, ROB...WITH YOU AT THE HELM!
BE SURE TO REMEMBER ME TO YOUR WIFE ... AND TO YOUNG RANDY!
YES! I'LL DO THAT, SON!
20-34
8

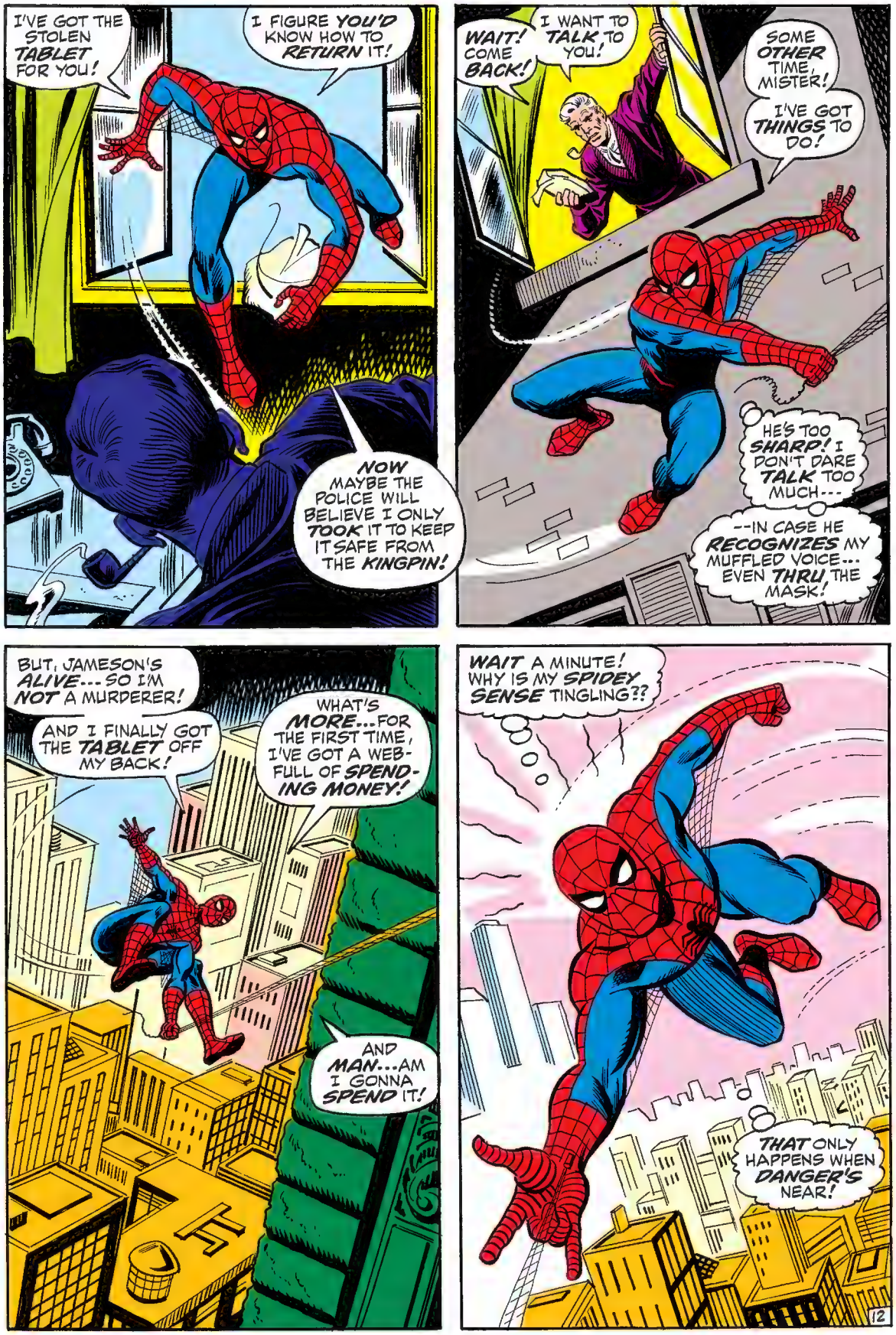
SOME TIME LATER...
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO GET TO SLEEP EARLY, DEAR?
I'M TOO TENSE, HONEY... I'M ALL KEYED UP!
MY MIND IS GOING A MILE-A-MINUTE... THINKING ABOUT A DOZEN THINGS!
I...DIDN'T HEAR RANDY COME IN YET!
HE'S HERE, ROB!
HE CAME IN QUIETLY... SO AS NOT TO DISTURB YOU!
WHY HAVE YOU BEEN SO CONCERNED ABOUT HIM LATELY?
I THOUGHT THAT CAMPUS PROTEST MATTER WAS ALL SETTLED?
IT'S NOT JUST THAT, MARTHA...
IT'S HIS FUTURE... IT'S THE WORLD HE'S GROWING UP IN!
HE'S TROUBLED... REBELLIOUS... FULL OF THE ANGRY IMPATIENCE OF YOUTH!
HE WANTS TO TAKE THE WORLD IN HIS HANDS... AND SHAPE IT INTO SOMETHING BETTER!
THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT, MARTHA! THAT'S WHAT REALLY COUNTS!
IT'S THE WAY WE USED TO FEEL ...REMEMBER?
IT'S THE DREAM THAT BELONGS TO THE YOUNG... IT'S THE HOPE OF THE WORLD!
BUT, SLEEP HAS A WAY OF COMING... JUST AS NEXT MORNINGS HAVE A WAY OF ROLLING AROUND... AND SO WE FIND...
BETTER SCRATCH MY APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY, BETTY!
WITH JJ OUT, IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME!
PETER PARKER HAS BEEN WAITING TO SEE YOU, MR. ROBERTSON!
IT'LL START WITH NEW PIX!
HE WOULDN'T BE THIS EARLY, UNLESS HE HAD SOMETHING SPECIAL! ASK HIM TO...
OH! HERE HE IS NOW!
FIRST TELL ME, MR. R... HOW'S JAMESON?
NOTHING SERIOUS, SON! HE'S ON THE MEND!
NOW, ABOUT THOSE PICTURES...
SAY! THESE ARE DYNAMITE!
MISS BRANT! DROP EVERYTHING! CALL THE PRESS ROOM!
THERE MAY STILL BE TIME TO CATCH THE EARLY EDITION!

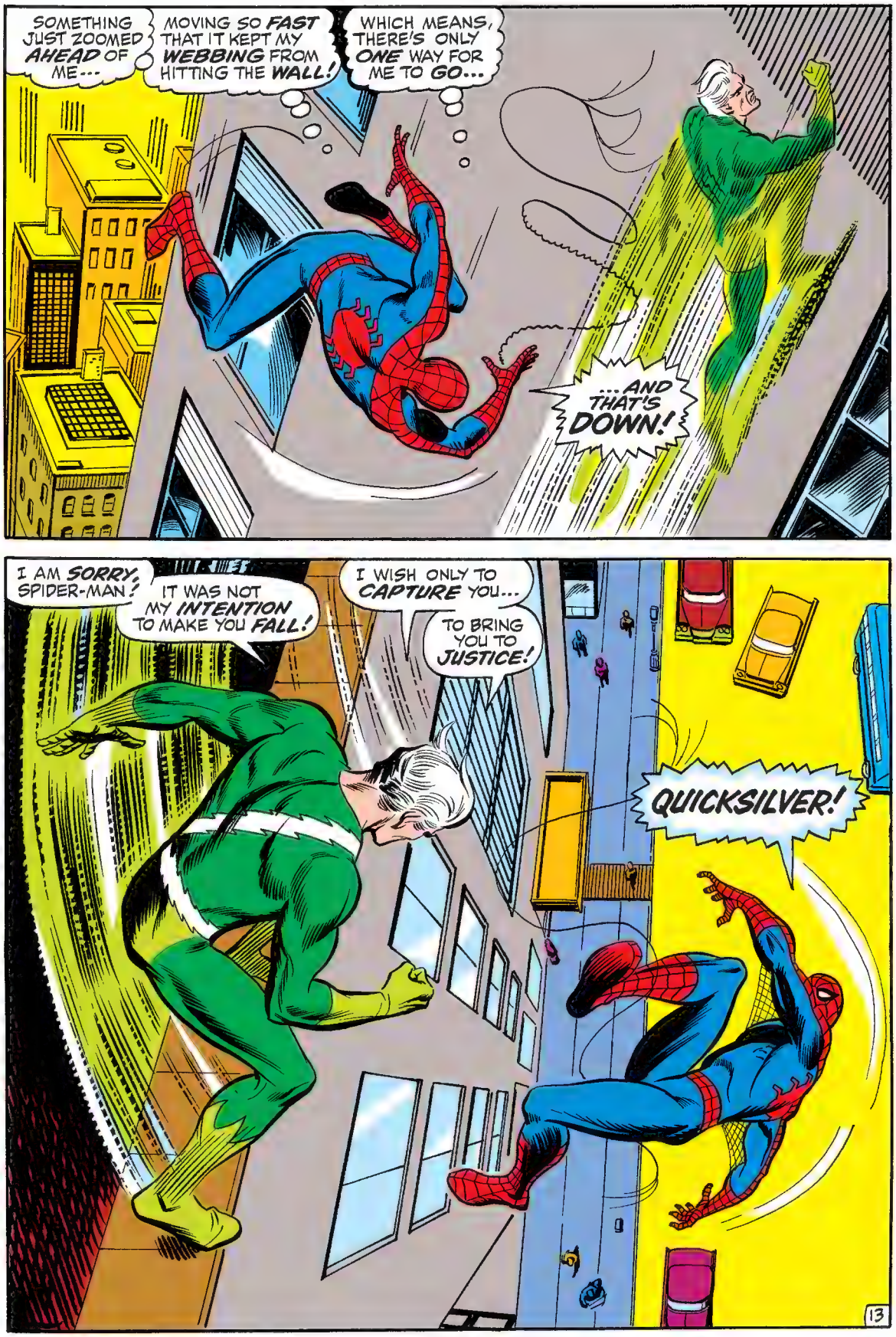
THESE SHOW... BEYOND A SHADOW OF DOUBT... THAT SPIDER-MAN TRIED TO PREVENT THE TABLET'S THEFT!
THEY ALSO PROVE... CONCLUSIVELY... THAT THE YOUNG CAMPUS PROTESTERS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

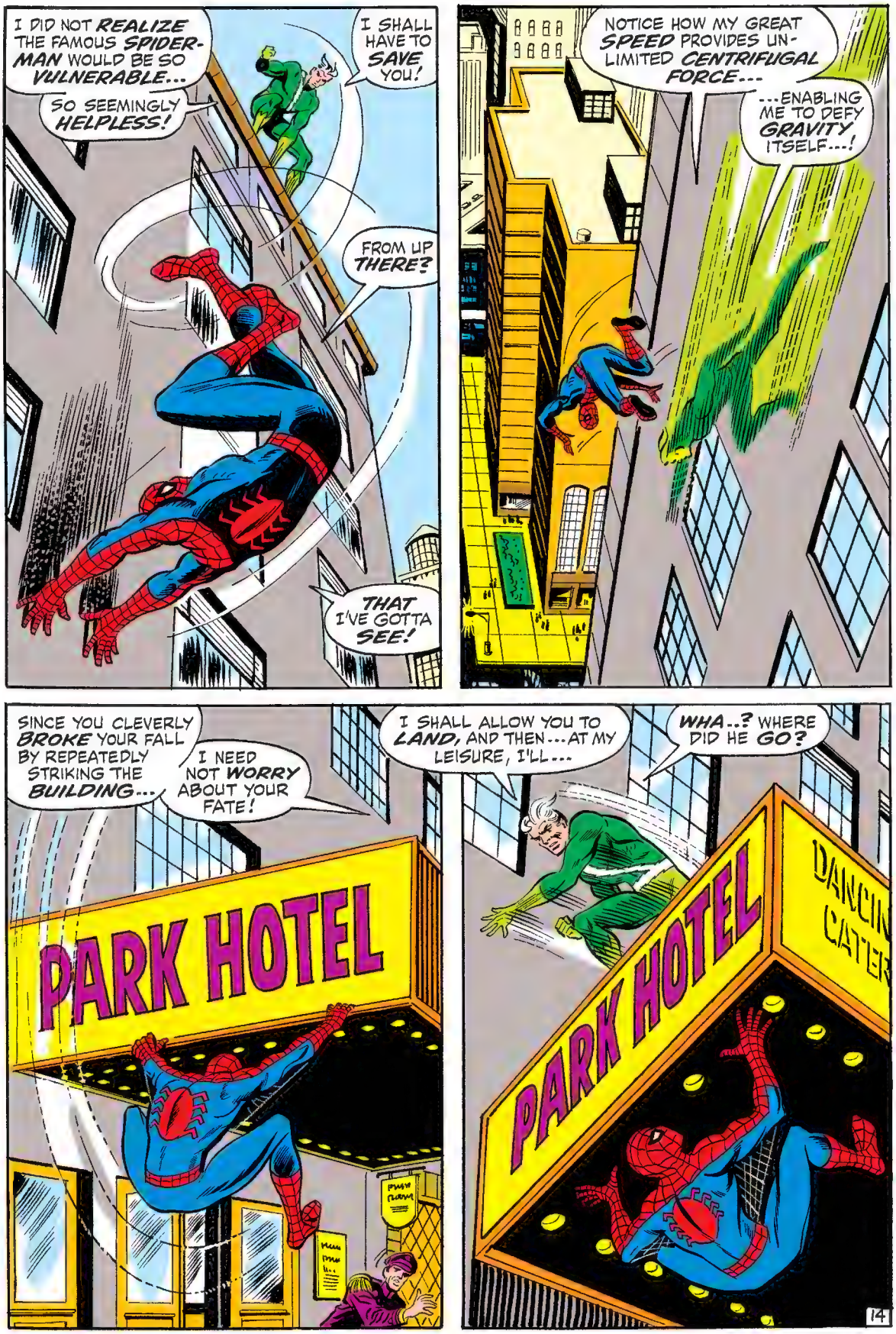
SECONDS LATER...
CALL THE COMPOSING ROOM... AND GET ME REWRITE!
PARKER! WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT? ISN'T THAT CHECK BIG ENOUGH?
BIG ENOUGH? IT'S THE MOST BREAD I'VE SEEN IN YEARS!
MAN! OL' JAMESON WOULD HAVE FREAKED OUT IF HE EVER SIGNED SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

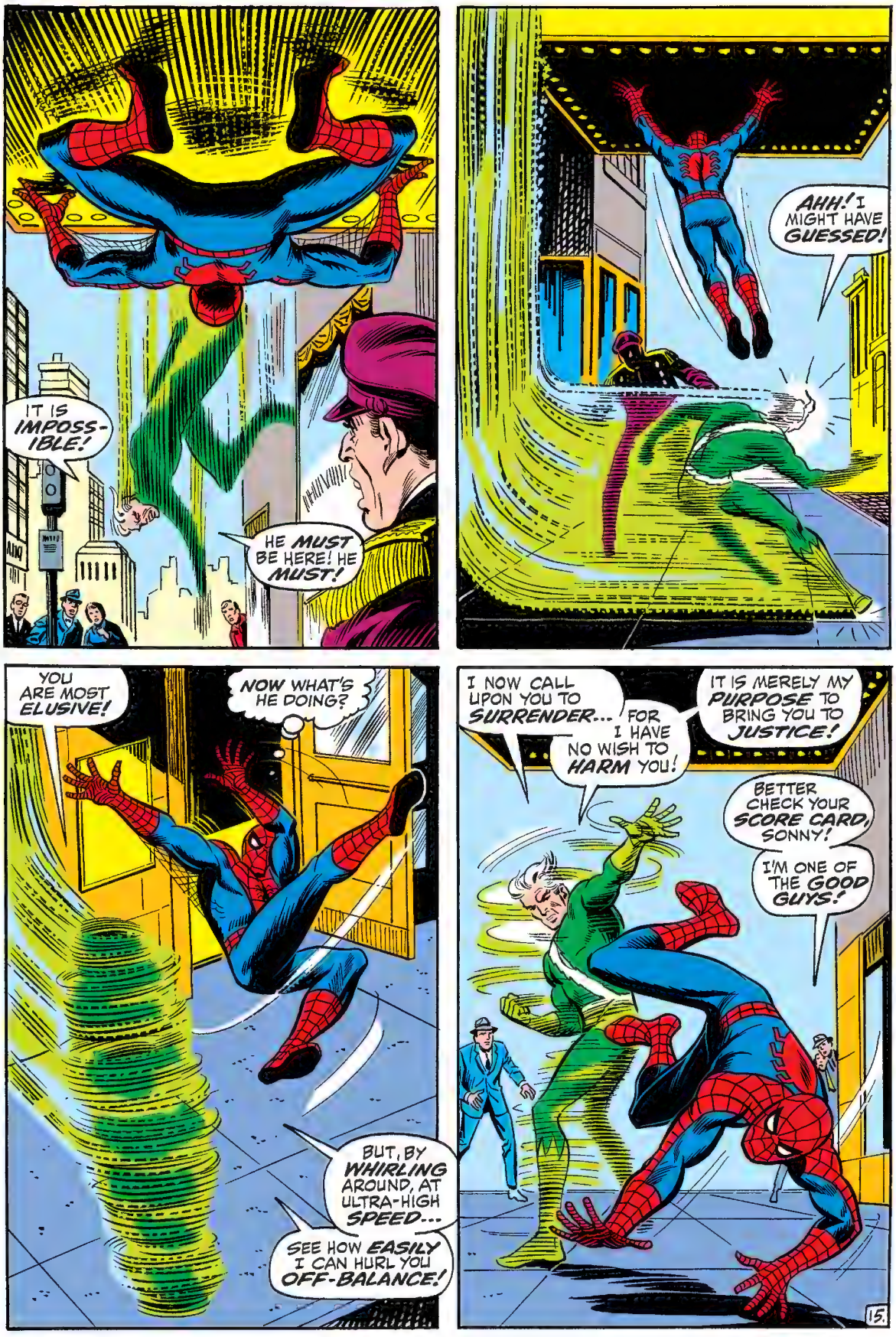

THERE GOES ONE HAPPY-LOOKING CITIZEN!
MR. R. MUST HAVE FLIPPED OVER HIS SNAPS!
NOW AUNT MAY CAN GO DOWN SOUTH FOR THE SUNSHINE SHE NEEDS!
AND I CAN FINALLY GIVE HARRY MY SHARE OF THE RENT!
FACE IT, PETEY...
THINGS ARE LOOKING UP... AT LAST!


NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GET RID OF THAT NUTTY TABLET!
AND I'VE FINALLY FIGURED OUT A WAY!
UPTOWN
I CAN'T SIMPLY GO SKIPPING INTO MY FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR-HOOD POLICE STATION!
BUT, I'LL DO THE NEXT BEST THING...
I'LL LET SOMEONE ELSE DO IT FOR ME!
AND SO...
WHO'S THERE??
HAVE NO FEAR...
SPIDEY'S HERE!
11.


I'VE GOT THE STOLEN TABLET FOR YOU!
I FIGURE YOU'D KNOW HOW TO RETURN IT!
NOW MAYBE THE POLICE WILL BELIEVE I ONLY TOOK IT TO KEEP IT SAFE FROM THE KINGPIN!
WAIT! COME BACK!
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
SOME OTHER TIME, MISTER!
I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO!
HE'S TOO SHARP! I DON'T DARE TALK TOO MUCH---
--IN CASE HE RECOGNIZES MY MUFFLED VOICE... EVEN THRU THE MASK!
BUT, JAMESON'S ALIVE... SO I'M NOT A MURDERER!
AND I FINALLY GOT THE TABLET OFF MY BACK!
WHAT'S MORE...FOR THE FIRST TIME, I'VE GOT A WEB-FULL OF SPENDING MONEY!
AND MAN...AM I GONNA SPEND IT!
WAIT A MINUTE! WHY IS MY SPIDEY SENSE TINGLING??
THAT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN DANGER'S NEAR!

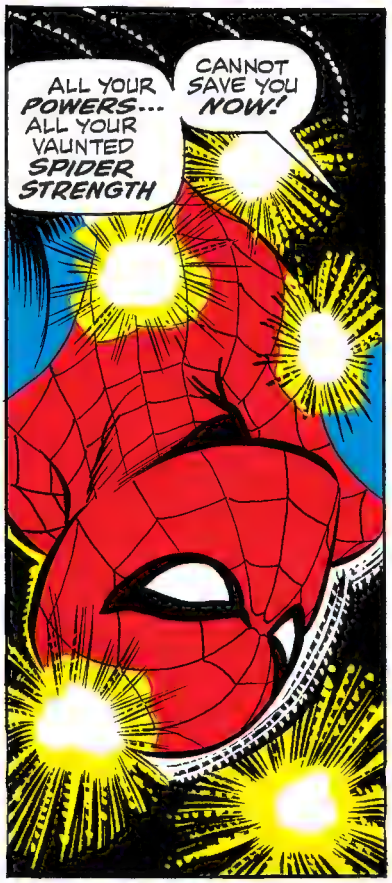

SOMETHING JUST ZOOMED AHEAD OF ME...
MOVING SO FAST THAT IT KEPT MY WEBBING FROM HITTING THE WALL!
WHICH MEANS, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY FOR ME TO GO...
...AND THAT'S DOWN!
I AM SORRY, SPIDER-MAN!
IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO MAKE YOU FALL!
I WISH ONLY TO CAPTURE YOU...
TO BRING YOU TO JUSTICE!
QUICKSILVER!


I DID NOT REALIZE THE FAMOUS SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE SO VULNERABLE...
SO SEEMINGLY HELPLESS!
I SHALL HAVE TO SAVE YOU!
FROM UP THERE?
THAT I'VE GOTTA SEE!
NOTICE HOW MY GREAT SPEED PROVIDES UNLIMITED CENTRIFUGAL FORCE---
...ENABLING ME TO DEFY GRAVITY ITSELF---!
SINCE YOU CLEVERLY BROKE YOUR FALL BY REPEATEDLY STRIKING THE BUILDING...
I NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT YOUR FATE!
I SHALL ALLOW YOU TO LAND, AND THEN---AT MY LEISURE, I'LL---
WHA..? WHERE DID HE GO?
PARK HOTEL
PARK HOTEL
DANCIN
CATER
14


IT IS IMPOSS-IBLE!
HE MUST BE HERE! HE MUST!
AHH! I MIGHT HAVE GUESSED!
YOU ARE MOST ELUSIVE!
NOW WHAT'S HE DOING?
BUT, BY WHIRLING AROUND, AT ULTRA-HIGH SPEED...
SEE HOW EASILY I CAN HURL YOU OFF-BALANCE!
I NOW CALL UPON YOU TO SURRENDER... FOR I HAVE NO WISH TO HARM YOU!
IT IS MERELY MY PURPOSE TO BRING YOU TO JUSTICE!
BETTER CHECK YOUR SCORE CARD, SONNY!
I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!
15.

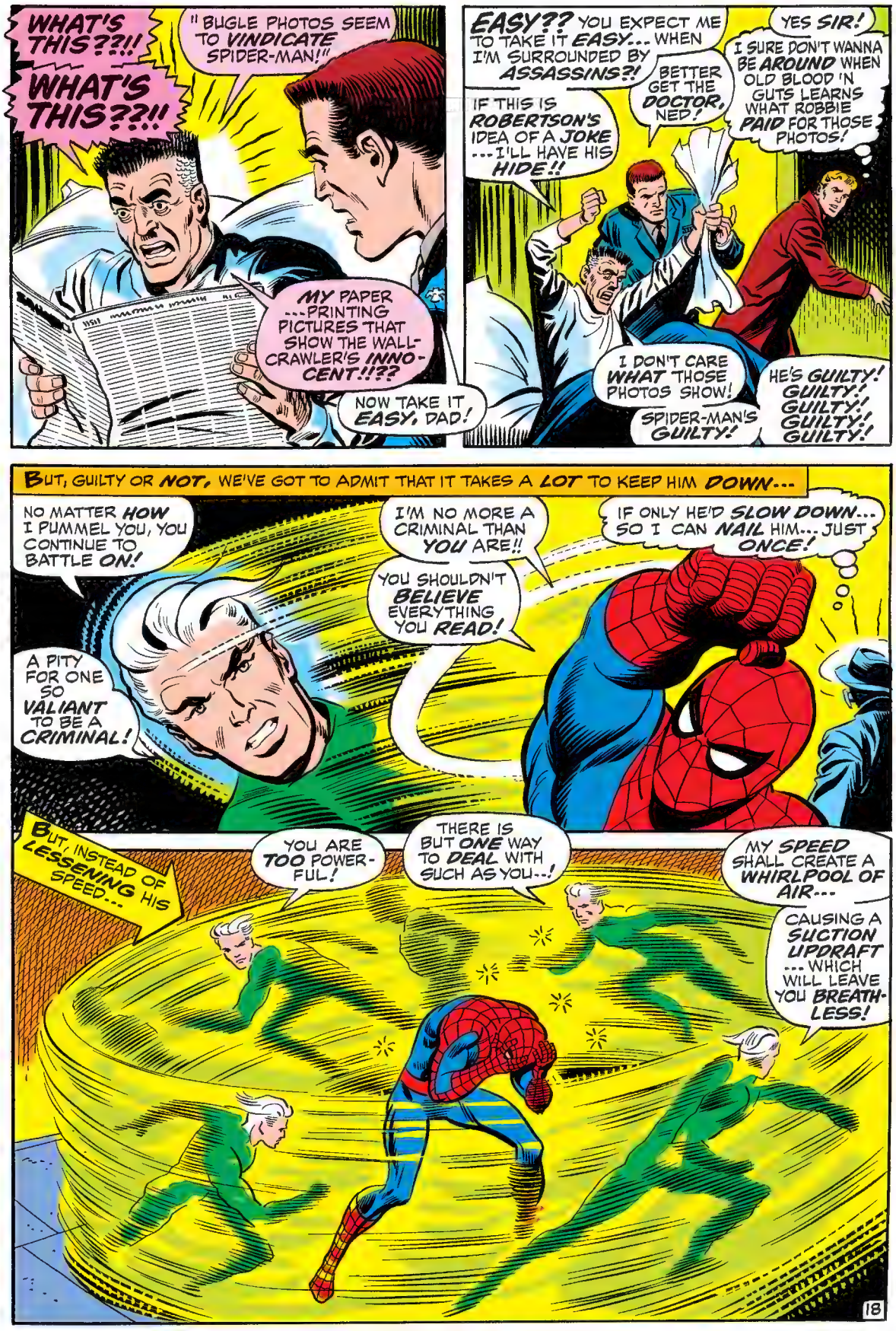
I WARN YOU, SPIDER-MAN! IT IS NOT WISE TO TRIFLE WITH QUICKSILVER!
I MUST BRING YOU TO JUSTICE... TO PROVE MYSELF WORTHY TO THE AVENGERS ONCE MORE!
THERE'S GOTTA BE AN EASIER WAY THAN THAT!
ON YOUR FEET, WEB-SLINGER! DO NOT TRY TO CATCH ME UNAWARES!
MY SPEED IS TOO GREAT FOR ANY SUCH MANEUVER!
WELL, JUST BETWEEN US, SPEEDY...
I'M NOT EXACTLY A SLOWPOKE MYSELF!
YOU THINK YOUR SPEED CAN COMPARE WITH MINE!
DON'T YOU REALIZE...TO ME, YOU'RE MOVING IN SLOW MOTION?!!

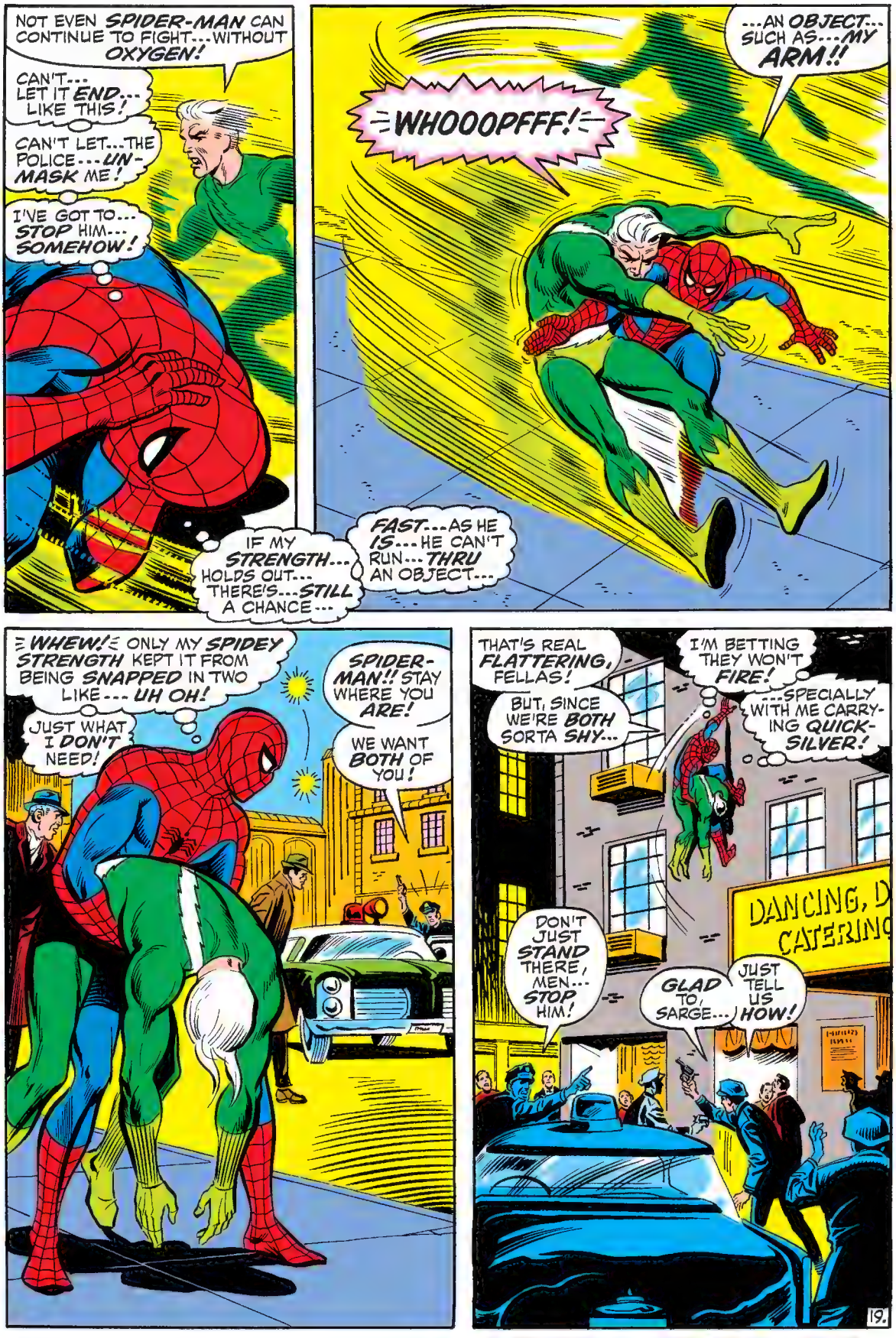
I CAN STRIKE YOU A DOZEN TIMES...
BEFORE YOU EVEN FEEL THE FIRST!
NOW SURRENDER ---SO THAT WE MAY END THIS FARCE!


ALL YOUR POWERS--- ALL YOUR VAUNTED SPIDER STRENGTH
CANNOT SAVE YOU NOW!

BUT, SINCE WE HATE TO SHOW OUR HERO GETTING HIS LUMPS, LET'S GRAB OURSELVES A CHANGE OF SCENE---
DID YOU BRING THE LATEST EDITION FOR MY FATHER, LEEDS?
YES, COLONEL--- BUT, PERHAPS YOU SHOULDN'T SHOW IT TO HIM YET!
NONSENSE! HE'S WELL ENOUGH TO READ NOW!
BUT, THAT EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE
IS THERE ANY-THING IN THERE THAT'LL UPSET HIM?

IS THAT YOU, LEEDS?? WHERE'S MY BLASTED PAPER!!
TOO LATE TO BACK OUT, NOW!
YEAH! MIGHT AS WELL GET IT OVER WITH!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, MAN---
HAND IT OVER--- WHILE IT'S STILL NEWS!
C'MON! C'MON! C'MON!
IF YOU'RE GONNA DAY-DREAM--- DO IT ON YOUR OWN TIME!


WHAT'S THIS??!!
WHAT'S THIS??!!
"BUGLE PHOTOS SEEM TO VINDICATE SPIDER-MAN!"
MY PAPER ---PRINTING PICTURES THAT SHOW THE WALL-CRAWLER'S INNO-CENT!!??
NOW TAKE IT EASY, DAD!
EASY?? YOU EXPECT ME TO TAKE IT EASY... WHEN I'M SURROUNDED BY ASSASSINS?!
IF THIS IS ROBERTSON'S IDEA OF A JOKE ---I'LL HAVE HIS HIDE!!
BETTER GET THE DOCTOR, NED!
YES SIR!
I SURE DON'T WANNA BE AROUND WHEN OLD BLOOD 'N GUTS LEARNS WHAT ROBBIE PAID FOR THOSE PHOTOS!
I DON'T CARE WHAT THOSE PHOTOS SHOW!
SPIDER-MAN'S GUILTY!
HE'S GUILTY! GUILTY! GUILTY! GUILTY! GUILTY!
BUT, GUILTY OR NOT, WE'VE GOT TO ADMIT THAT IT TAKES A LOT TO KEEP HIM DOWN...
NO MATTER HOW I PUMMEL YOU, YOU CONTINUE TO BATTLE ON!
A PITY FOR ONE SO VALIANT TO BE A CRIMINAL!
I'M NO MORE A CRIMINAL THAN YOU ARE!!
YOU SHOULDN'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ!
IF ONLY HE'D SLOW DOWN... SO I CAN NAIL HIM... JUST ONCE!
BUT, INSTEAD OF LESSENING HIS SPEED...
YOU ARE TOO POWER-FUL!
THERE IS BUT ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH SUCH AS YOU--!
MY SPEED SHALL CREATE A WHIRLPOOL OF AIR...
CAUSING A SUCTION UPDRAFT ... WHICH WILL LEAVE YOU BREATH-LESS!


NOT EVEN SPIDER-MAN CAN CONTINUE TO FIGHT---WITHOUT OXYGEN!
CAN'T--- LET IT END--- LIKE THIS!
CAN'T LET---THE POLICE---UN-MASK ME!
I'VE GOT TO--- STOP HIM--- SOMEHOW!
IF MY STRENGTH--- HOLDS OUT--- THERE'S---STILL A CHANCE---
FAST---AS HE IS---HE CAN'T RUN---THRU AN OBJECT---
WHOOOPFFF!
---AN OBJECT--- SUCH AS---MY ARM!!
WHEW! ONLY MY SPIDEY STRENGTH KEPT IT FROM BEING SNAPPED IN TWO LIKE--- UH OH!
JUST WHAT I DON'T NEED!
SPIDER-MAN!! STAY WHERE YOU ARE!
WE WANT BOTH OF YOU!
THAT'S REAL FLATTERING, FELLAS!
BUT, SINCE WE'RE BOTH SORTA SHY---
I'M BETTING THEY WON'T FIRE!
---SPECIALLY WITH ME CARRY-ING QUICK-SILVER!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, MEN--- STOP HIM!
GLAD TO, SARGE---
JUST TELL US HOW!
DANCING, D
CATERING
19.

WHEN QUICKIE COMES TO, I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO HIM!
THUS, A FEW SECONDS LATER---
YOU MIGHT HAVE SLAIN ME--- BUT DID NOT---
I WILL NO LONGER PIT MY PROWESS AGAINST YOURS!
GROOVY! THAT SAVES ME THE TROUBLE OF TRYING TO CONVINCE YOU THAT I'M NOT ATTILA THE HUN!
I SHALL FIND ANOTHER WAY TO WIN MY REDEMPTION!
NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF ONE SUCH AS YOU!
IF ONLY SOME OF THAT--- WOULD RUB OFF ON JAMESON!
HOW ABOUT THAT?
MAYBE MY LUCK'S CHANGING AT LAST!
OR, IS THIS JUST A LULL...
BEFORE THE STORM?
WE'LL FIND OUT FOR SURE, NEXT, WHEN WE'RE SUDDENLY GONNA MEET:
THE MOST SHOCKING FOE OF ALL!
20

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
72
MAY
the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
ROMITA
ROCKED BY THE SHOCKER!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
ROCKED BY.. THE SHOCKER!
FORGIVE MY SUDDEN ENTRANCE, STACY...
BUT I HAPPEN TO BE IN A HURRY!
NO, NO, SPIDEY-FAN...YOU DIDN'T WANDER IN AT THE MIDDLE OF OUR STORY! IT'S JUST THAT WE HAVE SO MUCH ACTION COMING UP, THAT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WASTE A MINUTE! SO, LET'S GO, GO, GO---
ZAK!
THE SHOCKER!
WHAT DO Y... UNHH!
STAN (THE MAN) LEE AUTHOR
BIG JOHN BUSCEMA INNOVATOR
JAZZY JOHNNY ROMITA and JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY ILLUSTRATORS
SWINGIN' SAMMY ROSEN, LETTERER
IF OUR VILLAIN LOOKS FAMILIAR TO YOU, IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE PREVIOUSLY THRILLED TO HIS PULSATING POWER IN SPIDER-MAN #46! BUT TAKE IT FROM US--- YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HIM AS DANGEROUS AS NOW---

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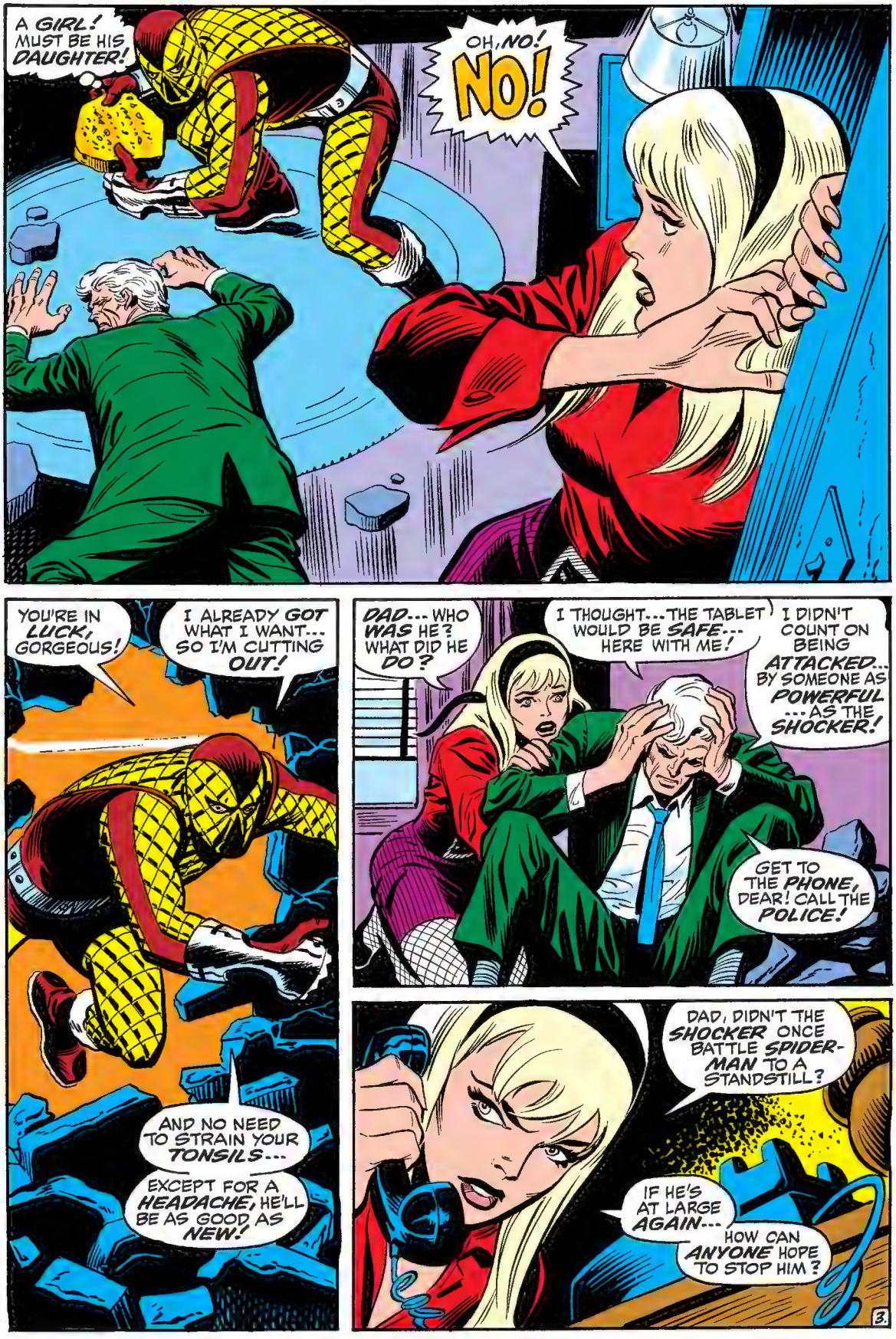
LUCKY FOR HIM I USED MY VIBRO-POWER AT ITS WEAKEST INTENSITY!
HE'LL BE CONSCIOUS AGAIN WITHIN A MATTER OF MINUTES!
ZZZAK!!
BUT, I'LL HAVE FOUND WHAT I SEEK BY THEN!
NO SAFE CAN RESIST MY VIBRATING BLAST!
ACCORDING TO THE NEWS-PAPERS, THE PRICELESS CLAY TABLET SHOULD BE IN HERE---
SINCE SPIDER-MAN WAS DUMB ENOUGH NOT TO KEEP IT, AND SELL IT FOR HIMSELF!
BUT THE SHOCKER HAS NO SUCH SCRUPLES!
THE TABLET MUST BE MINE!
I'M IN LUCK!
STACY HASN'T YET RETURNED IT TO THE COLLEGE!
THIS ANCIENT PIECE OF PETRIFIED STONE IS WORTH A KING'S RANSOM!
WHAT'S THAT? ...FOOT-STEPS... RUNNING TOWARDS ME!
DAD! DAD! WHAT WAS THAT NOISE??
IT SOUNDED LIKE PART OF THE BUILDING CAVING IN!!
DAD! WHERE ARE YOU? WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER?
2.


A GIRL! MUST BE HIS DAUGHTER!
OH, NO!
NO!
YOU'RE IN LUCK, GORGEOUS!
I ALREADY GOT WHAT I WANT... SO I'M CUTTING OUT!
AND NO NEED TO STRAIN YOUR TONSILS...
EXCEPT FOR A HEADACHE, HE'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW!
DAD... WHO WAS HE? WHAT DID HE DO?
I THOUGHT... THE TABLET WOULD BE SAFE... HERE WITH ME!
I DIDN'T COUNT ON BEING ATTACKED... BY SOMEONE AS POWERFUL ...AS THE SHOCKER!
GET TO THE PHONE, DEAR! CALL THE POLICE!
DAD, DIDN'T THE SHOCKER ONCE BATTLE SPIDER-MAN TO A STANDSTILL?
IF HE'S AT LARGE AGAIN...
HOW CAN ANYONE HOPE TO STOP HIM?
3.

WE MUST ADMIT THAT GROOVY GWENDY HAS POSED A MOST INTERESTING QUESTION! BUT, BEFORE TRYING TO ANSWER IT, LET'S VISIT A SEEDY LITTLE PAWNSHOP ON A SEEDY LITTLE SIDE-STREET---
WHOEVER THAT IS OUTSIDE, BEAT IT!
I'M CLOSIN' FOR THE NIGHT!
ZAK!
DON'T COUNT ON IT, MISTER!
THE SHOCKER!
WH-WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE?
I'M JUST SMALL POTATOES TO A GUY LIKE YOU!
TO ME YOU'RE NOTHING!
BUT YOU KNOW HOW TO REACH ---THE BIG BOYS!
I WANT YOU TO CONTACT THEM! TELL 'EM I HAVE THE STOLEN TABLET!
I'M GONNA FENCE IT TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER!
YOU CAN'T! IT'S TOO LATE!
EVER SINCE SPIDER-MAN SNATCHED IT FROM THE KINGPIN HIMSELF, NO ONE'LL TOUCH IT!
IT'S TOO HOT! NO ONE WANTS TO TANGLE WITH THE WALL-CRAWLER AGAIN!
THEY DON'T, HUH?
THBAM!
ZAK!
SO THEY'RE AFRAID OF THE WEB-SLINGER, ARE THEY?
I'LL GIVE 'EM SOMETHING TO REALLY BE SCARED OF!
ZAK!
4.

AND JUST IN CASE NO ONE GETS THE MESSAGE---!
TKKLAY GG!
HOLY SMOKE! IT LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER RIOT!
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER, YET!
HELP... POLICE!! ANYONE!!
A FEW MINUTES LATER---
---THE PUBLIC IS CAUTIONED TO AVOID THE EAST FORTIES---
WHERE POLICE ARE CONDUCTING A HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH FOR THE SHOCKER---
THE SHOCKER... AT LARGE AGAIN!
LIKE, DO THEY HAVETA BREAK IN ON THE SOUL PARADE JUST ON ACCOUNTA SOME COSTUMED NUT?
I THOUGHT HE WAS IN JAIL... BUT IF HE'S ON THE LOOSE ONCE MORE--
---THEN SPIDER-MAN BETTER MAKE THE SCENE... BUT FAST!
HEY! HE JUST GOT ON... A COUPLE OF BLOCKS AGO!
CRAZY TEEN-AGERS!
WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT, BETTER HAPPEN FAST!
I FINALLY CONVINCED AUNT MAY TO GO SOUTH FOR HER HEALTH---
AND HER TRAIN LEAVES IN AN HOUR!
IF I'M NOT THERE TO SEE HER OFF...
SHE'LL BE SO WORRIED ABOUT ME, THAT SHE WON'T GO!
UH OH! SPIDEY SENSE IS STARTING TO TINGLE!
THE SHOCKER MUST BE NEARBY!
5.

WHILE, BACK AT THE PAWN SHOP...
NOT YET, INSPECTOR!
NO TRACE OF THAT TABLET, EITHER!
ANY TRACE OF HIM, HARRIS?
LOOKS LIKE WE JUST LOST HIM ON THE ROOFTOPS!
BUT THERE'S A MILLION PLACES HE COULD HAVE STASHED IT AWAY BY NOW!
IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST!
THE SHOCKER AIN'T HUMAN! ---NO ONE CAN TAKE 'IM!

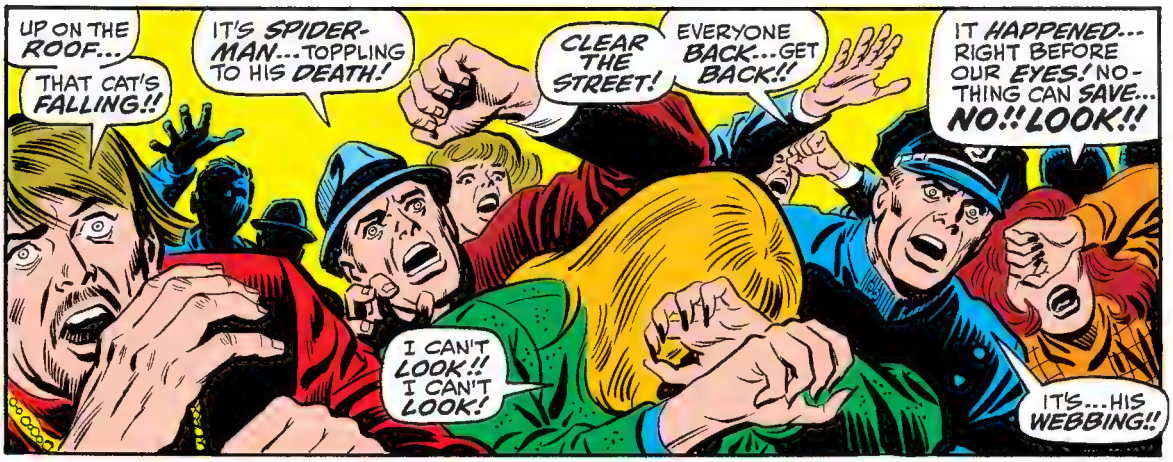
MAYBE NOT... BUT JUST ABOUT NOW, SOMEONE'S GONNA TRY...
HOLD IT, BIG BOY!
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
WHO SAID THAT??

I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT, MAN...
IT'S NOT ARETHA FRANKLIN!
BTOK!

HE'S STILL CONSCIOUS!
MUST HAVE USED HIS VIBRATING POWER AGAIN, TO DEFLECT MY BLOW!
I ALMOST FORGOT WHAT A DEADLY OPPONENT THE SHOCKER CAN BE!
SPIDER-MAN! I THOUGHT YOU'D DROP BY!
HE DOESN'T EVEN SOUND HURT!

LAST TIME WE FOUGHT, YOU MANAGED TO ESCAPE WITH YOUR LIFE!
YOU SHOULD HAVE QUIT... WHILE YOU WERE AHEAD!
HA!
THERE'S ONE FOR STARTERS!
ZAK!
ANOTHER BLAST!
HE'S TRYING TO BRING THE CHIMNEY DOWN ON ME!
AHH! YOU'RE AS NIMBLE AS EVER, WALL-CRAWLER!
KRASH!
...NOT THAT IT WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD!
ALTHOUGH I COULD PROBABLY FINISH YOU OFF WITH A SUDDEN DOUBLE BLAST...
I PREFER TO TOY WITH YOU AWHILE!
...FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE!
HE BLASTED A HOLE... IN THE FLOOR OF THE ROOF... BELOW ME!!
I--I'M FALLING!
ZAK!
THWIPP
BUT IF HE THINKS HE'S LOST ME...
HE'D BETTER THINK AGAIN!
7

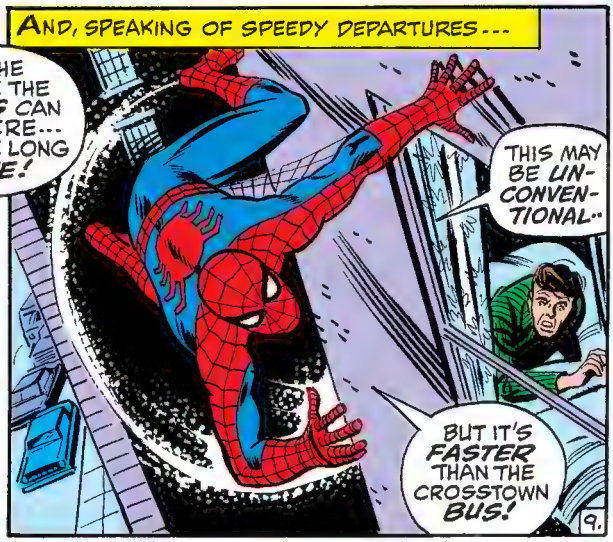
WHILE YOU'RE FALLING, WEB-HEAD... JUST THOUGHT I'D LET YOU KNOW...
I'VE HIDDEN THAT BLASTED TABLET IN A PLACE WHERE NOBODY'LL EVER FIND IT AGAIN!
SO YOUR BATTLE WITH THE KINGPIN WAS A TOTAL WASTE OF TIME
AND BEFORE I FORGET... HAPPY LANDINGS!
WHUPPFFF!
SAME TO YOU, BIG MOUTH!
THOP!
DESPITE YOUR PUNY POWERS, SPIDER-MAN..
IT'S A PITY YOU CAN'T FLY!
BOK!
WHAT DO I DO NOW? DELIVER HIM TO THE LAW...
OR HOLD ON TO HIM... TILL I LEARN WHERE HE HID THE TABLET?
WHATEVER I DO... IT HAD BETTER BE QUICK...
IF I DON'T WANT TO MISS AUNT MAY!
FUNNY... I DIDN'T THINK THIS JOKER WOULD BE SO EASY TO...
I NOTICE YOU'VE THROWN CAUTION TO THE WINDS, YOU FOOL!
UH OH! I WAS RIGHT!
A DANGEROUS ERROR, WHEN BATTLING THE SHOCKER!
8

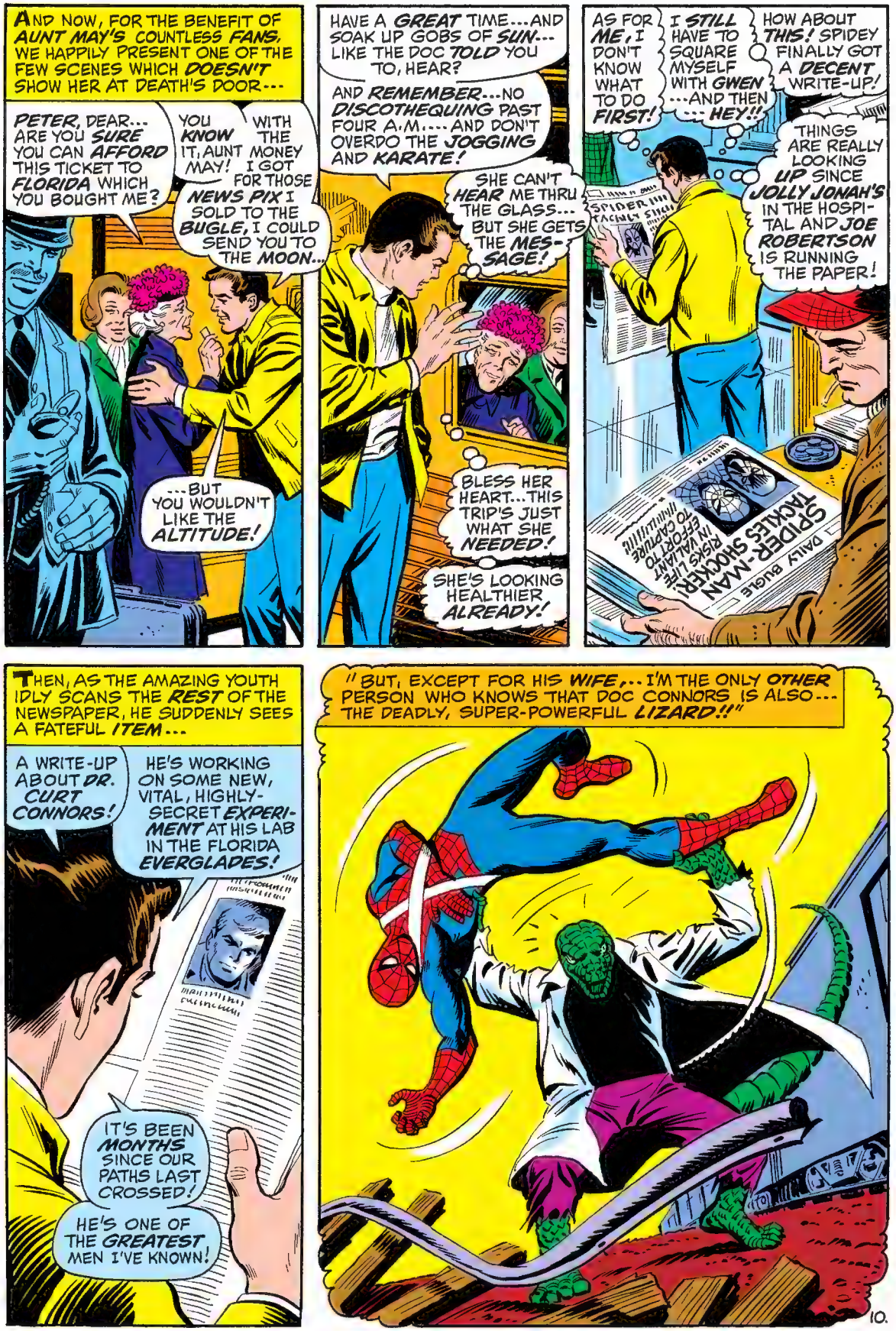

UP ON THE ROOF...
THAT CAT'S FALLING!!
IT'S SPIDER-MAN...TOPPLING TO HIS DEATH!
CLEAR THE STREET!
EVERYONE BACK...GET BACK!!
IT HAPPENED... RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES! NOTHING CAN SAVE... NO!! LOOK!!
I CAN'T LOOK!! I CAN'T LOOK!
IT'S...HIS WEBBING!!

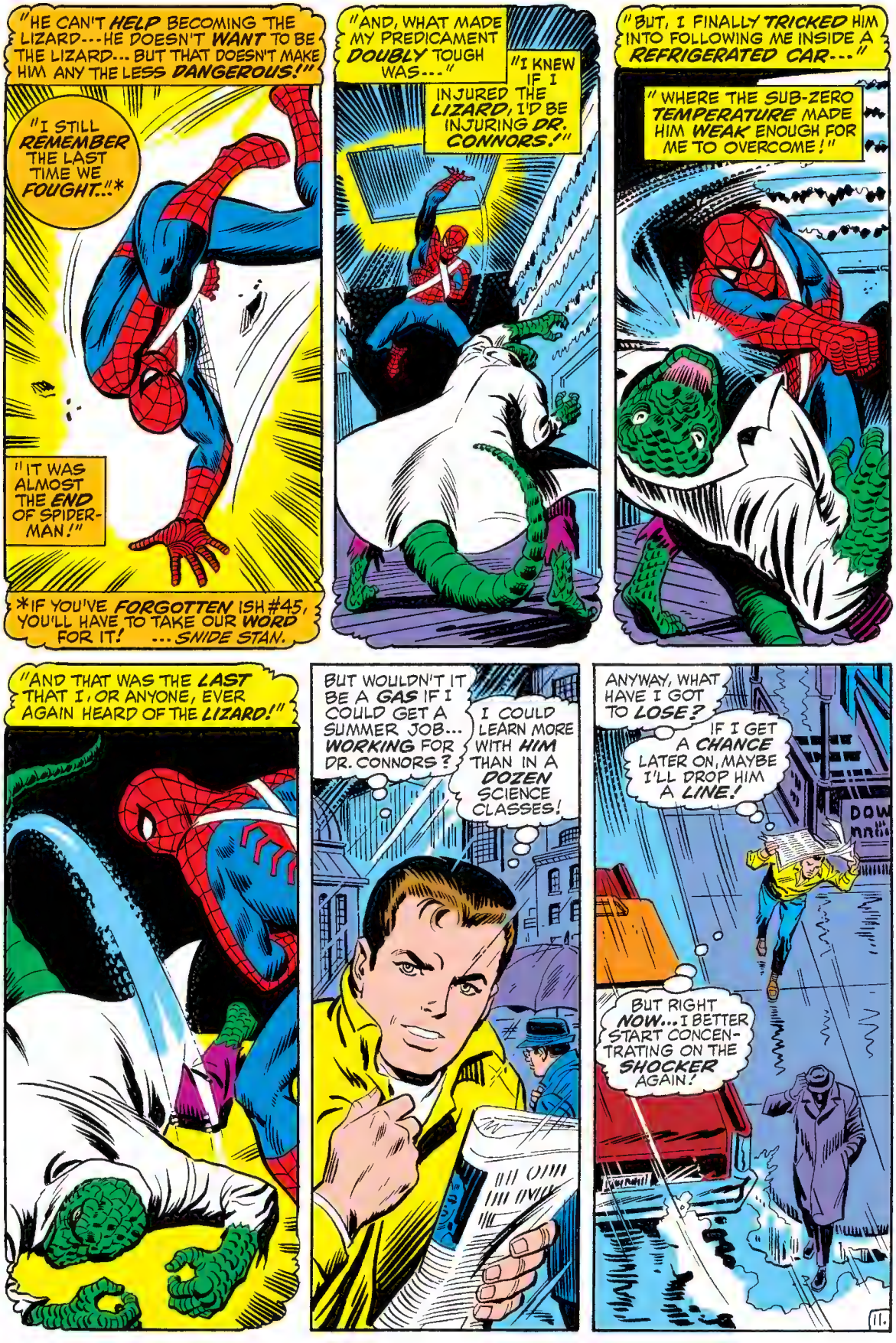
DIDN'T THINK I'D BE THAT EASY, DID YOU?
BUT DON'T FRET, PET...
I'LL COME SWINGIN' UP FOR ROUND TWO BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

OH NO YOU DON'T! I'M WISE TO YOU NOW!
WELL, I'M NOT BUYING!
I'LL FINISH YOU OFF YET.. BUT IT'LL BE ME WHO PICKS THE TIME AND PLACE!
YOU WANNA DELAY ME WHILE THE COPS CORDON OFF THE STREET!
GREAT! IT'S WHAT I HOPED HE'D SAY!

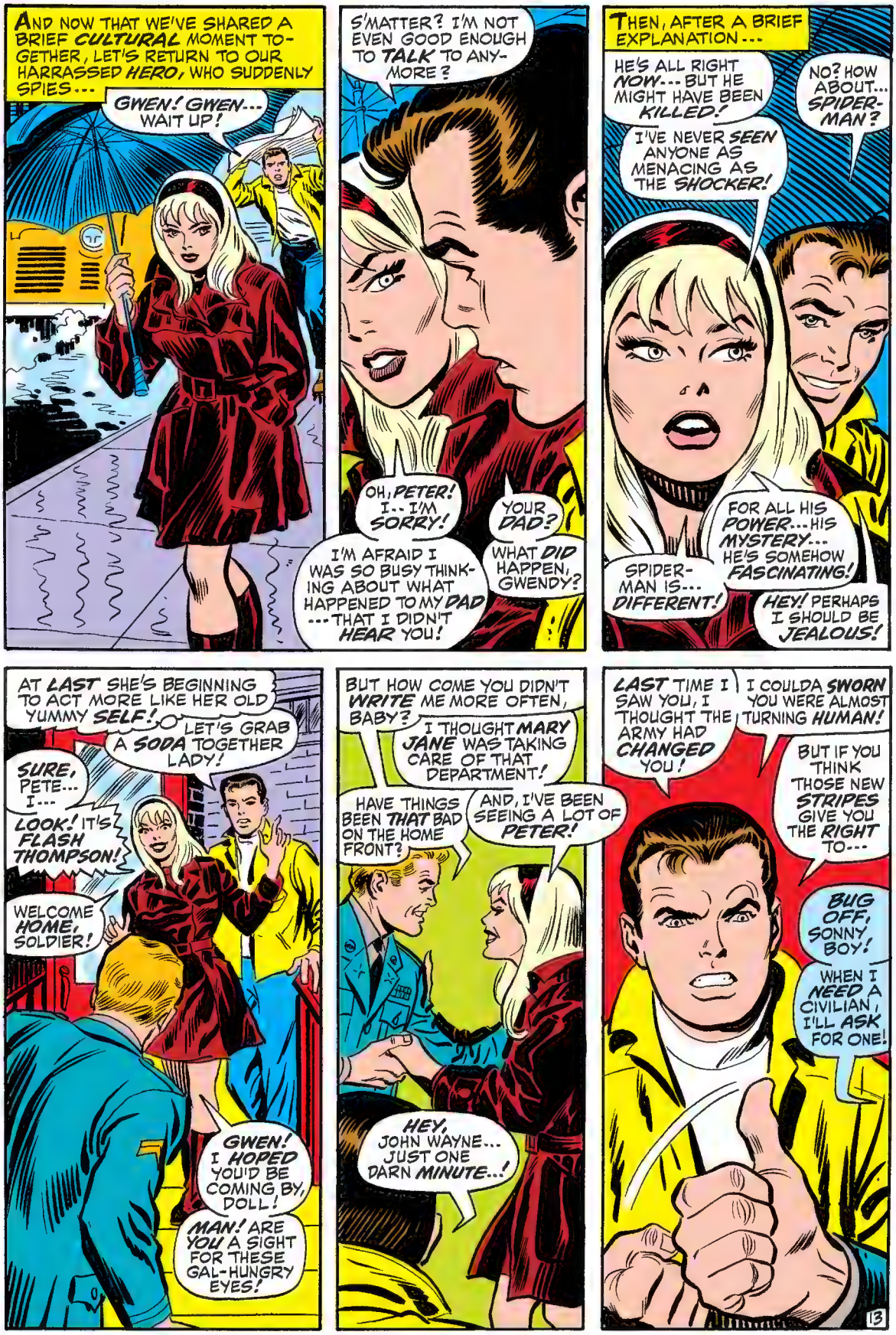
NOW I CAN MAKE THE TRAIN IN TIME!
BUT JUST SO THE SHOCKER WON'T BE LONELY...
I'LL SEND MY LITTLE SPIDEY TRACER ALONG TO KEEP HIM COMPANY!
BY THE TIME THE COPS CAN GET HERE... I'LL BE LONG GONE!

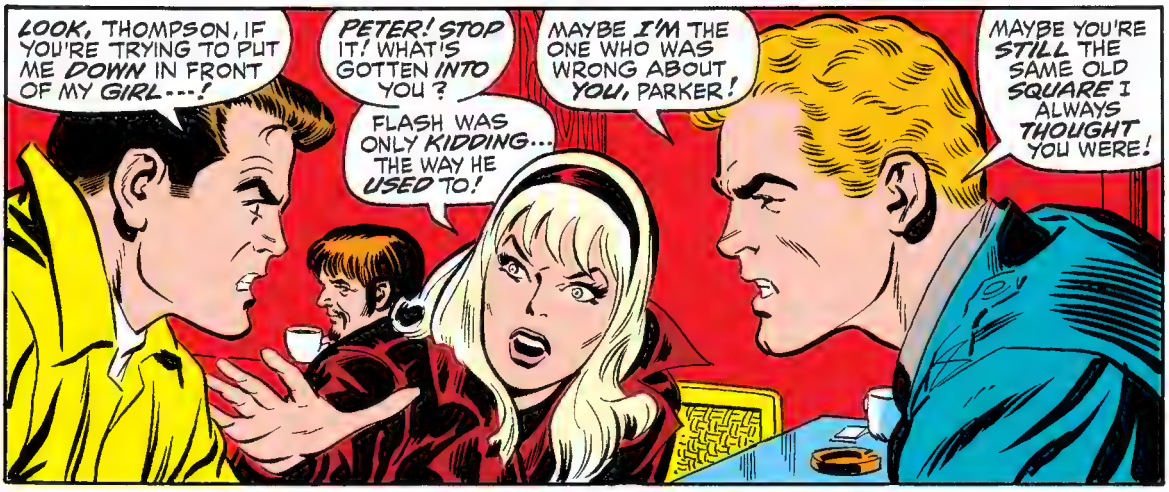

AND, SPEAKING OF SPEEDY DEPARTURES...
THIS MAY BE UNCONVENTIONAL..
BUT IT'S FASTER THAN THE CROSSTOWN BUS!


AND NOW, FOR THE BENEFIT OF AUNT MAY'S COUNTLESS FANS, WE HAPPILY PRESENT ONE OF THE FEW SCENES WHICH DOESN'T SHOW HER AT DEATH'S DOOR---
PETER, DEAR... ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN AFFORD THIS TICKET TO FLORIDA WHICH YOU BOUGHT ME?
YOU KNOW IT, AUNT MAY! WITH THE MONEY I GOT FOR THOSE NEWS PIX I SOLD TO THE BUGLE, I COULD SEND YOU TO THE MOON...
---BUT YOU WOULDN'T LIKE THE ALTITUDE!
HAVE A GREAT TIME...AND SOAK UP GOBS OF SUN--- LIKE THE DOC TOLD YOU TO, HEAR?
AND REMEMBER...NO DISCOTHEQUING PAST FOUR A.M.... AND DON'T OVERDO THE JOGGING AND KARATE!
SHE CAN'T HEAR ME THRU THE GLASS... BUT SHE GETS THE MES-SAGE!
BLESS HER HEART...THIS TRIP'S JUST WHAT SHE NEEDED!
SHE'S LOOKING HEALTHIER ALREADY!
AS FOR ME, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO FIRST!
I STILL HAVE TO SQUARE MYSELF WITH GWEN ---AND THEN --- HEY!!
HOW ABOUT THIS! SPIDEY FINALLY GOT A DECENT WRITE-UP!
THINGS ARE REALLY LOOKING UP SINCE JOLLY JONAH'S IN THE HOSPI-TAL AND JOE ROBERTSON IS RUNNING THE PAPER!
DAILY BUGLE
SPIDER-MAN TACKLES SHOCKER
RISKS LIFE IN VALIANT EFFORT TO CAPTURE
THEN, AS THE AMAZING YOUTH IDLY SCANS THE REST OF THE NEWSPAPER, HE SUDDENLY SEES A FATEFUL ITEM...
A WRITE-UP ABOUT DR. CURT CONNORS!
HE'S WORKING ON SOME NEW, VITAL, HIGHLY-SECRET EXPERI-MENT AT HIS LAB IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES!
IT'S BEEN MONTHS SINCE OUR PATHS LAST CROSSED!
HE'S ONE OF THE GREATEST MEN I'VE KNOWN!
"BUT, EXCEPT FOR HIS WIFE,... I'M THE ONLY OTHER PERSON WHO KNOWS THAT DOC CONNORS IS ALSO--- THE DEADLY, SUPER-POWERFUL LIZARD!!"


"HE CAN'T HELP BECOMING THE LIZARD---HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE THE LIZARD--- BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE HIM ANY THE LESS DANGEROUS!"
"I STILL REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT..."*
"IT WAS ALMOST THE END OF SPIDER-MAN!"
*IF YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ISH #45, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT! ...SNIDE STAN.
"AND, WHAT MADE MY PREDICAMENT DOUBLY TOUGH WAS---"
"I KNEW IF I INJURED THE LIZARD, I'D BE INJURING DR. CONNORS!"
"BUT, I FINALLY TRICKED HIM INTO FOLLOWING ME INSIDE A REFRIGERATED CAR---"
"WHERE THE SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURE MADE HIM WEAK ENOUGH FOR ME TO OVERCOME!"
"AND THAT WAS THE LAST THAT I, OR ANYONE, EVER AGAIN HEARD OF THE LIZARD!"
BUT WOULDN'T IT BE A GAS IF I COULD GET A SUMMER JOB... WORKING FOR DR. CONNORS?
I COULD LEARN MORE WITH HIM THAN IN A DOZEN SCIENCE CLASSES!
ANYWAY, WHAT HAVE I GOT TO LOSE?
IF I GET A CHANCE LATER ON, MAYBE I'LL DROP HIM A LINE!
BUT RIGHT NOW... I BETTER START CONCENTRATING ON THE SHOCKER AGAIN!
11.

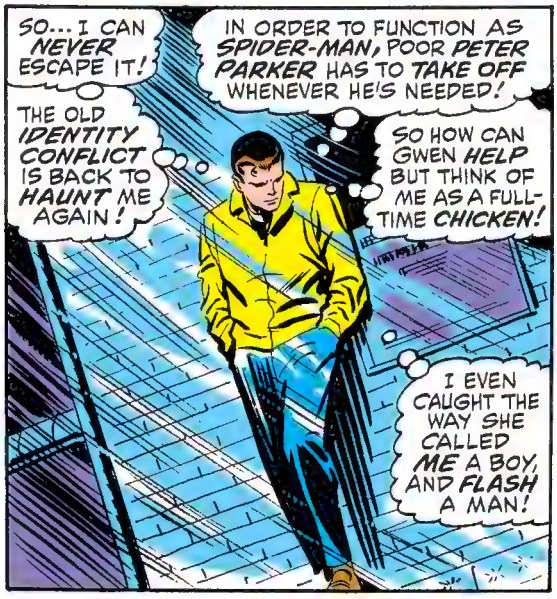
AND, SPEAKING OF CONCENTRATION, LET'S SEE WHAT JOLLY JONAH JAMESON IS COGITATING ABOUT RIGHT NOW---
WHAT'S THIS??!!
MY OWN NEWSPAPER CALLING SPIDER-MAN A HERO?!!
BUGLE
DAILY
THE WHOLE @%K!!#!%@??!! COUNTRY'S GOING TO THE DOGS!
A MAN CAN'T EVEN ENJOY HIMSELF IN THE HOSPITAL ANYMORE!
I'M GONNA FIRE EVERY NINCOMPOOP ON THAT PAPER!!
MR. JAMESON! YOU'RE DELIRIOUS!
YOU'RE DING DONG RIGHT I AM!
WHEN I FIND OUT WHO WROTE THAT STORY..!!
DOCTOR! DOCTOR! HELP!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! GET ME MY LAWYER!
YOU'LL NEED AN UNDERTAKER IF YOU DON'T CALM DOWN!
PRIVA
HELLO! HELLO! GET ME THE BUGLE!
NO! I DON'T WANT A DING-BUSTED MUSIC STORE...I MEANT THE DAILY BUGLE!
NOT BAGLE, DUMMY!! BUGLE!
MR. JAMESON! YOU SIMPLY MUST HOLD STILL!
NO! I DON'T WANT A DAD-BLASTED PET SHOP!!
HOW COME YOU DIDN'T GET ME A PET SHOP... WHERE THEY SELL BEAGLES?!!
GET THAT NIT-WITTED NEEDLE AWAY FROM ME!!
NO! NO! I DIDN'T MEAN YOU!
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER GET THAT TRANQUILIZER INTO HIM!
IS HE ALWAYS THAT EXCITABLE, DOCTOR?
ONLY WHEN HE'S AWAKE!
WHY DID I BECOME A PUBLISHER?
I'M TOO SENSITIVE... TOO GENTLE... FOR ALL THIS!
NOBODY... UNDERSTANDS ME... NOBODY... CARES... NOBODY... ZZZZ
12

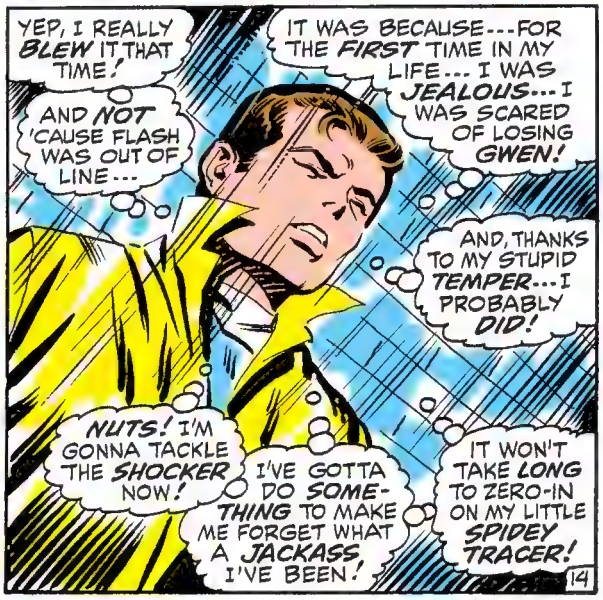

AND NOW THAT WE'VE SHARED A BRIEF CULTURAL MOMENT TOGETHER, LET'S RETURN TO OUR HARRASSED HERO, WHO SUDDENLY SPIES...
GWEN! GWEN... WAIT UP!
S'MATTER? I'M NOT EVEN GOOD ENOUGH TO TALK TO ANYMORE?
OH, PETER! I-- I'M SORRY!
I'M AFRAID I WAS SO BUSY THINKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DAD ---THAT I DIDN'T HEAR YOU!
YOUR DAD?
WHAT DID HAPPEN, GWENDY?
THEN, AFTER A BRIEF EXPLANATION---
HE'S ALL RIGHT NOW--- BUT HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE AS MENACING AS THE SHOCKER!
NO? HOW ABOUT... SPIDER-MAN?
SPIDER-MAN IS--- DIFFERENT!
FOR ALL HIS POWER...HIS MYSTERY... HE'S SOMEHOW FASCINATING!
HEY! PERHAPS I SHOULD BE JEALOUS!
AT LAST SHE'S BEGINNING TO ACT MORE LIKE HER OLD YUMMY SELF!
LET'S GRAB A SODA TOGETHER LADY!
SURE, PETE... I---
LOOK! IT'S FLASH THOMPSON!
WELCOME HOME, SOLDIER!
GWEN! I HOPED YOU'D BE COMING BY, DOLL!
MAN! ARE YOU A SIGHT FOR THESE GAL-HUNGRY EYES!
BUT HOW COME YOU DIDN'T WRITE ME MORE OFTEN, BABY?
I THOUGHT MARY JANE WAS TAKING CARE OF THAT DEPARTMENT!
HAVE THINGS BEEN THAT BAD ON THE HOME FRONT?
AND, I'VE BEEN SEEING A LOT OF PETER!
HEY, JOHN WAYNE... JUST ONE DARN MINUTE..!
LAST TIME I SAW YOU, I THOUGHT THE ARMY HAD CHANGED YOU!
I COULDA SWORN YOU WERE ALMOST TURNING HUMAN!
BUT IF YOU THINK THOSE NEW STRIPES GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO---
BUG OFF, SONNY BOY!
WHEN I NEED A CIVILIAN, I'LL ASK FOR ONE!
13


LOOK, THOMPSON, IF YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT ME DOWN IN FRONT OF MY GIRL---!
PETER! STOP IT! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
FLASH WAS ONLY KIDDING... THE WAY HE USED TO!
MAYBE I'M THE ONE WHO WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU, PARKER!
MAYBE YOU'RE STILL THE SAME OLD SQUARE I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE!

OKAY... OKAY! MAYBE I WAS TOO UPTIGHT!
BUT NO ONE LIKES TO SEE SOME OTHER GUY MAKING A PLAY FOR HIS GIRL!
FACE IT, FRIEND! ANY JOE WHO DOESN'T MAKE A PLAY FOR THAT CHICK IS READY FOR EMBALMING!
ANYWAY, I'M CUTTING OUT NOW!
THANKS FOR THE WARM WELCOME!

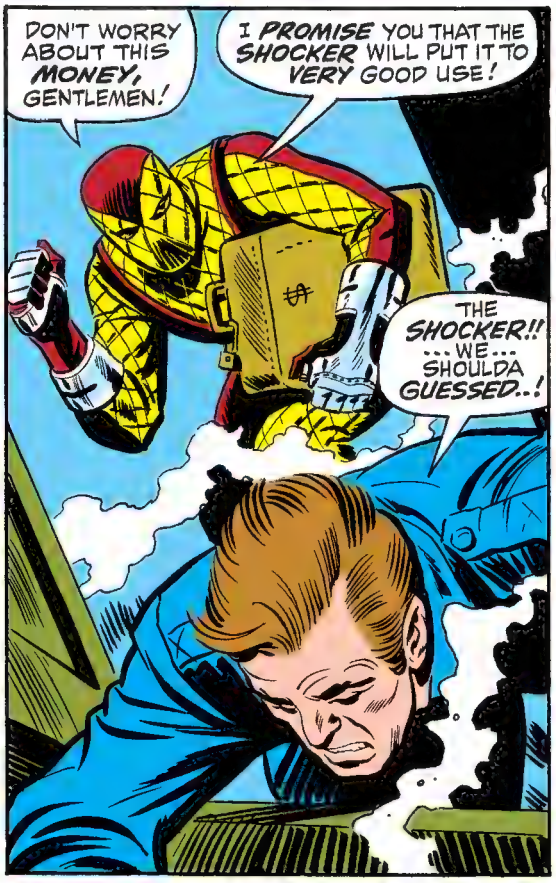
GWEN... I--I'M SORRY!
YOU SHOULD BE, PETER!
FOR A BOY WHO'S ALWAYS MISSING WHEN THERE'S ANY TROUBLE...
IT'S STRANGE HOW HOSTILE YOU CAN BE TO A MAN WHO'S BEEN IN COMBAT!

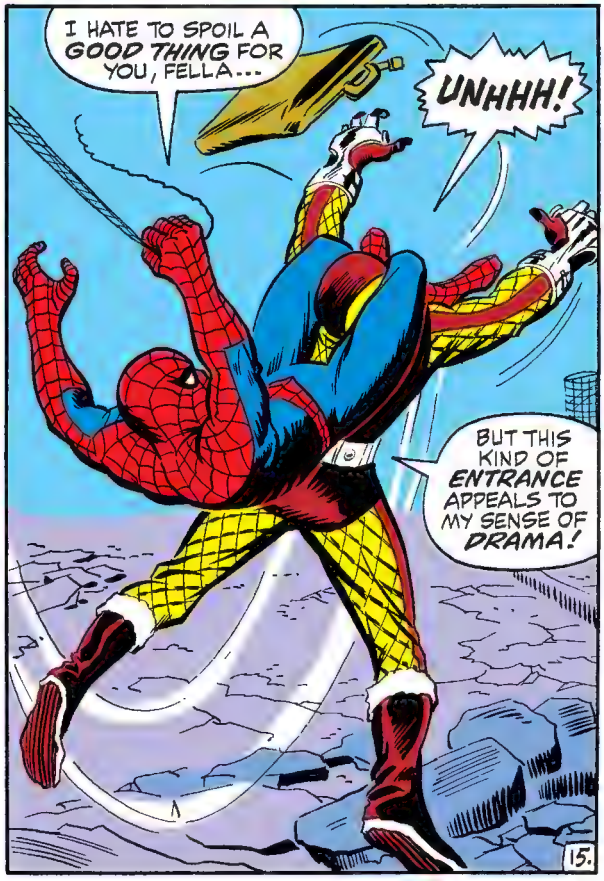

SO... I CAN NEVER ESCAPE IT!
IN ORDER TO FUNCTION AS SPIDER-MAN, POOR PETER PARKER HAS TO TAKE OFF WHENEVER HE'S NEEDED!
THE OLD IDENTITY CONFLICT IS BACK TO HAUNT ME AGAIN!
SO HOW CAN GWEN HELP BUT THINK OF ME AS A FULL-TIME CHICKEN!
I EVEN CAUGHT THE WAY SHE CALLED ME A BOY, AND FLASH A MAN!

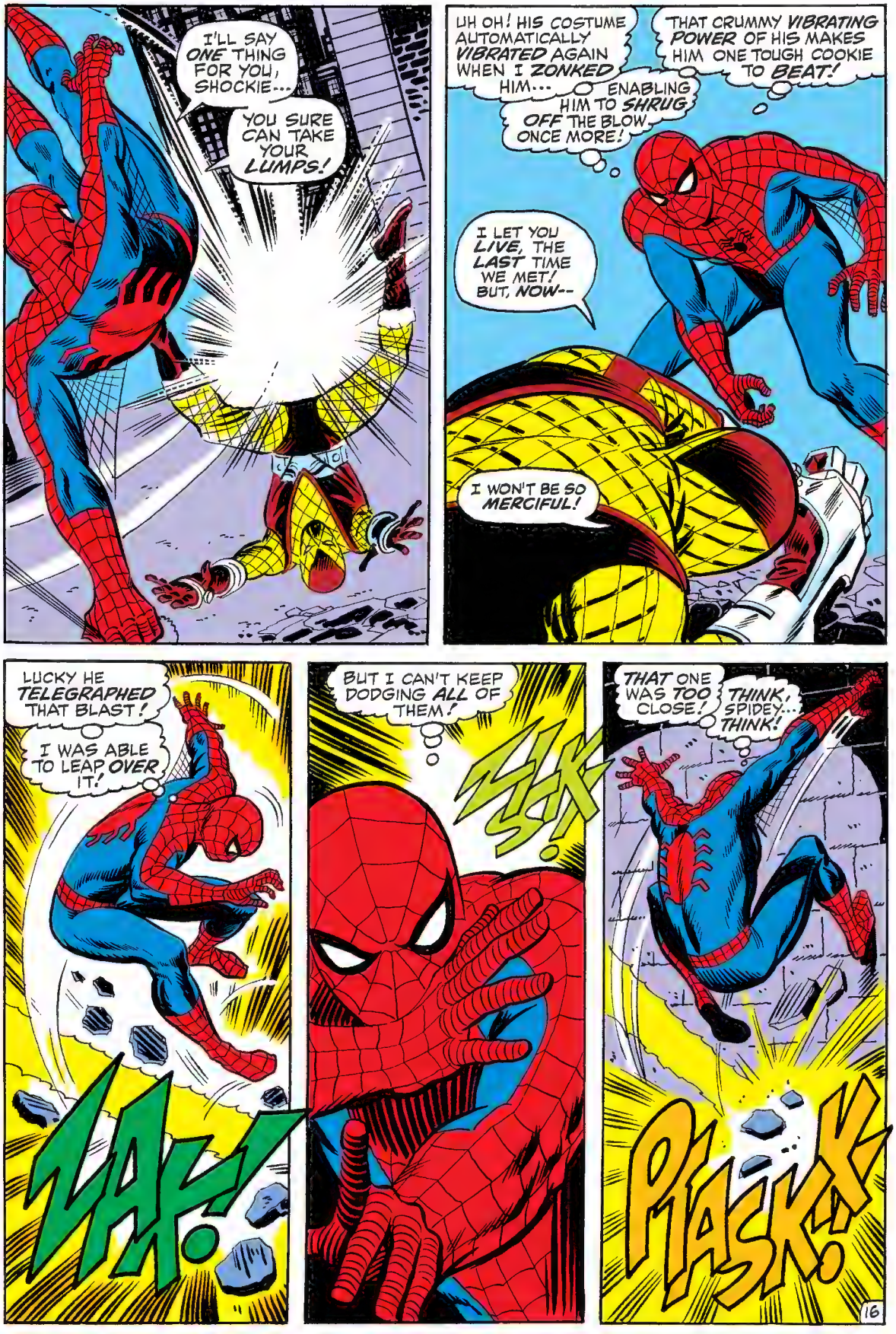

YEP, I REALLY BLEW IT THAT TIME!
AND NOT 'CAUSE FLASH WAS OUT OF LINE...
IT WAS BECAUSE---FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE... I WAS JEALOUS... I WAS SCARED OF LOSING GWEN!
AND, THANKS TO MY STUPID TEMPER... I PROBABLY DID!
NUTS! I'M GONNA TACKLE THE SHOCKER NOW!
I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING TO MAKE ME FORGET WHAT A JACKASS I'VE BEEN!
IT WON'T TAKE LONG TO ZERO-IN ON MY LITTLE SPIDEY TRACER!

OKAY, SOAP OPERA TIME'S OVER NOW! SO HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...!
HEY, MARTY... LOOK OUT!
WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT?
I DUNNO... BUT LOOK AT THE HOLE IT JUST BLASTED IN FRONT OF US!
SKREEECHHH!
ZAK!

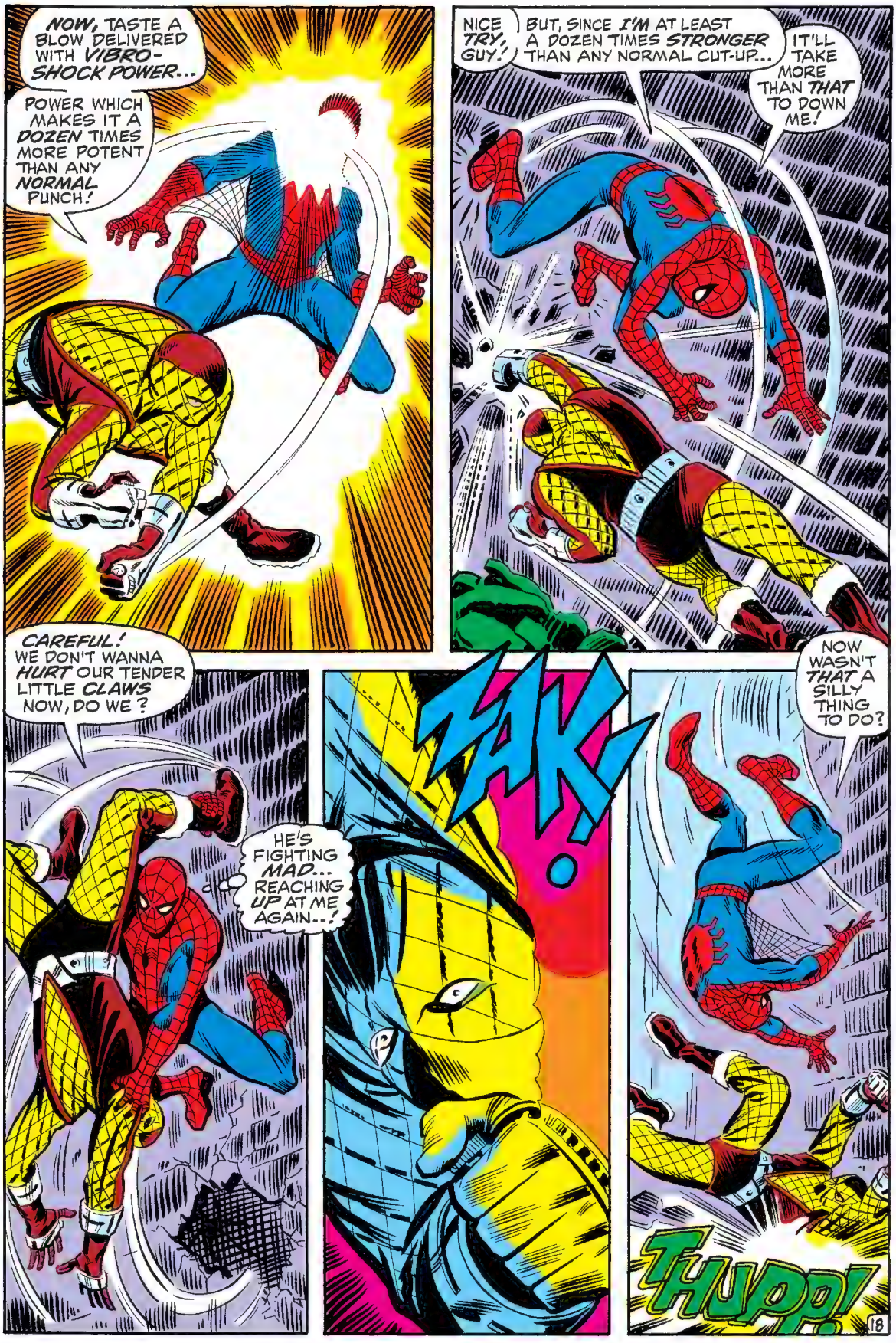
SPTOWG!
A SECOND BLAST!!
IT TORE THE ARMORED DOOR... RIGHT OFF ITS HINGES!!

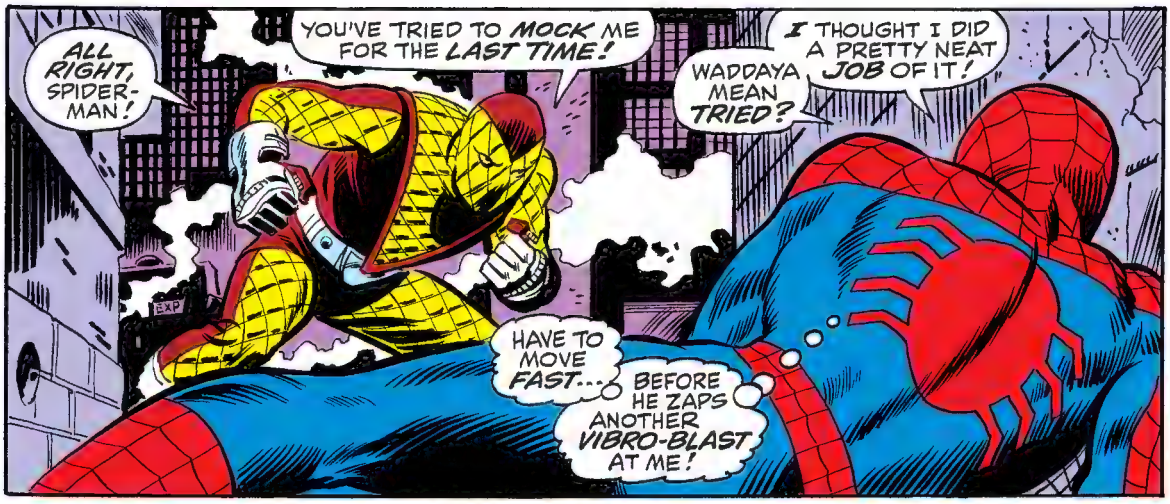

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THIS MONEY, GENTLEMEN!
I PROMISE YOU THAT THE SHOCKER WILL PUT IT TO VERY GOOD USE!
THE SHOCKER!! ...WE... SHOULDA GUESSED..!


I HATE TO SPOIL A GOOD THING FOR YOU, FELLA...
UNHHH!
BUT THIS KIND OF ENTRANCE APPEALS TO MY SENSE OF DRAMA!
15.


I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR YOU, SHOCKIE...
YOU SURE CAN TAKE YOUR LUMPS!
UH OH! HIS COSTUME AUTOMATICALLY VIBRATED AGAIN WHEN I ZONKED HIM...
ENABLING HIM TO SHRUG OFF THE BLOW ONCE MORE!
THAT CRUMMY VIBRATING POWER OF HIS MAKES HIM ONE TOUGH COOKIE TO BEAT!
I LET YOU LIVE, THE LAST TIME WE MET! BUT, NOW--
I WON'T BE SO MERCIFUL!
LUCKY HE TELEGRAPHED THAT BLAST!
I WAS ABLE TO LEAP OVER IT!
ZAK!
BUT I CAN'T KEEP DODGING ALL OF THEM!
ZAK!
THAT ONE WAS TOO CLOSE!
THINK, SPIDEY... THINK!
PTASK!

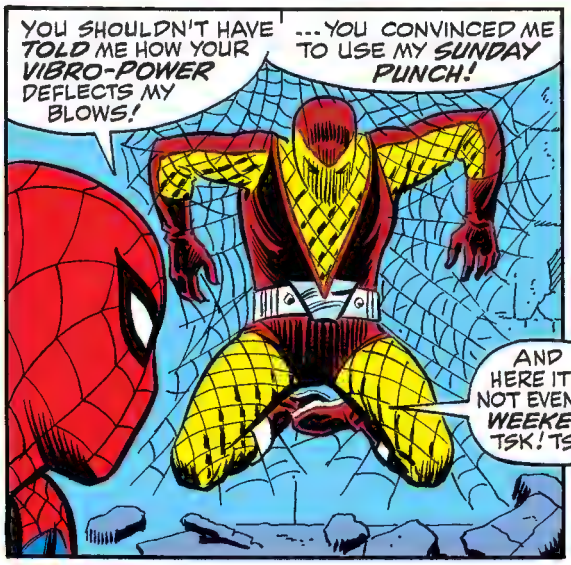
OH NO! THE WHOLE WALL'S COMING DOWN ON ME!
BRRKACKK
ZAK!
IF I CAN SHOOT OUT MY WEBS FAST ENOUGH...
I'LL USE THEM TO DEFLECT THE BRICKS!
...AND TO CUSHION MY FALL!
BY THE TIME HE GETS OUT OF THERE...
IF HE EVER DOES...
I'LL BE JUST A MEMORY ...WITH MY WELL-EARNED LOOT!
DON'T BET ON IT, SWEETIE!
THWIPP!
PTHWAPP!
NOW WHAT'S HE DOING?
I CAN FREE MYSELF INSTANTLY!
ZZZZZZZZZ
...BY VIBRO-SHOCKING YOUR WEBS LOOSE!

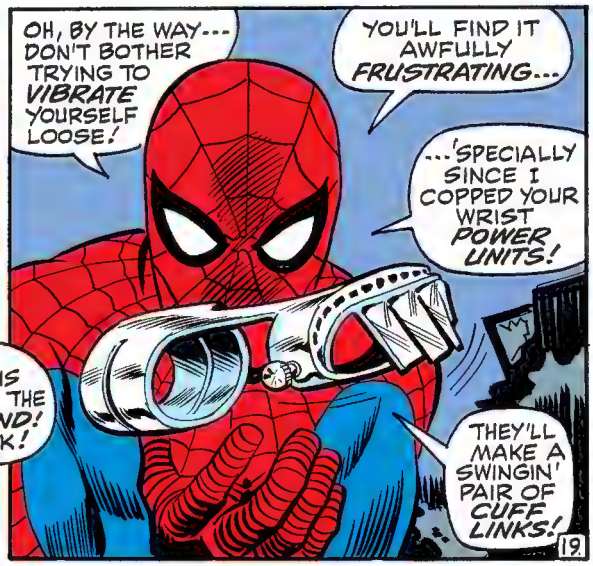

NOW, TASTE A BLOW DELIVERED WITH VIBRO-SHOCK POWER...
POWER WHICH MAKES IT A DOZEN TIMES MORE POTENT THAN ANY NORMAL PUNCH!
NICE TRY, GUY!
BUT, SINCE I'M AT LEAST A DOZEN TIMES STRONGER THAN ANY NORMAL CUT-UP...
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN THAT TO DOWN ME!
CAREFUL! WE DON'T WANNA HURT OUR TENDER LITTLE CLAWS NOW, DO WE?
HE'S FIGHTING MAD... REACHING UP AT ME AGAIN--!
ZAK!
NOW WASN'T THAT A SILLY THING TO DO?
THUPP!

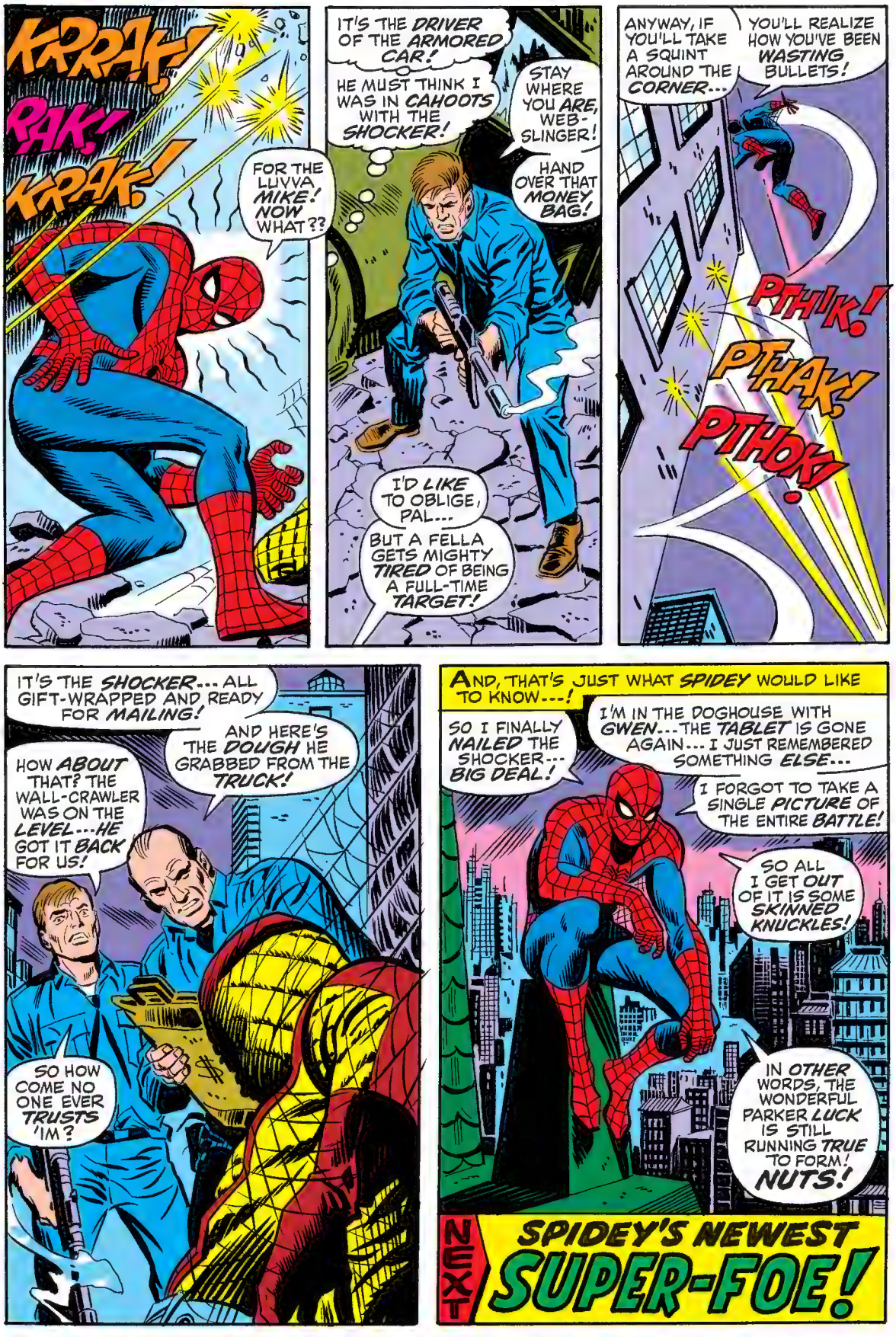

ALL RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN!
YOU'VE TRIED TO MOCK ME FOR THE LAST TIME!
WADDAYA MEAN TRIED?
I THOUGHT I DID A PRETTY NEAT JOB OF IT!
HAVE TO MOVE FAST...
BEFORE HE ZAPS ANOTHER VIBRO-BLAST AT ME!

THERE, BIG MAN! YOU CAN'T HIT WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE!
MY FACE! ...COVERED WITH WEBBING!
KNOW SOMETHING? IT'S AN IMPROVE-MENT!

AND NOW... LET'S CUT THE KIDDING AROUND...!
BKOP!


YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD ME HOW YOUR VIBRO-POWER DEFLECTS MY BLOWS!
...YOU CONVINCED ME TO USE MY SUNDAY PUNCH!
AND HERE IT IS NOT EVEN THE WEEKEND! TSK! TSK!


OH, BY THE WAY--- DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO VIBRATE YOURSELF LOOSE!
YOU'LL FIND IT AWFULLY FRUSTRATING...
...'SPECIALLY SINCE I COPPED YOUR WRIST POWER UNITS!
THEY'LL MAKE A SWINGIN' PAIR OF CUFF LINKS!


KRAK!
RAK!
KRAK!
FOR THE LUVVA MIKE! NOW WHAT??
IT'S THE DRIVER OF THE ARMORED CAR!
HE MUST THINK I WAS IN CAHOOTS WITH THE SHOCKER!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, WEB-SLINGER!
HAND OVER THAT MONEY BAG!
I'D LIKE TO OBLIGE, PAL...
BUT A FELLA GETS MIGHTY TIRED OF BEING A FULL-TIME TARGET!
ANYWAY, IF YOU'LL TAKE A SQUINT AROUND THE CORNER...
YOU'LL REALIZE HOW YOU'VE BEEN WASTING BULLETS!
PTHIK!
PTHAK!
PTHOK!
IT'S THE SHOCKER... ALL GIFT-WRAPPED AND READY FOR MAILING!
AND HERE'S THE DOUGH HE GRABBED FROM THE TRUCK!
HOW ABOUT THAT? THE WALL-CRAWLER WAS ON THE LEVEL... HE GOT IT BACK FOR US!
SO HOW COME NO ONE EVER TRUSTS 'IM?
AND, THAT'S JUST WHAT SPIDEY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW...!
SO I FINALLY NAILED THE SHOCKER... BIG DEAL!
I'M IN THE DOGHOUSE WITH GWEN... THE TABLET IS GONE AGAIN... I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING ELSE...
I FORGOT TO TAKE A SINGLE PICTURE OF THE ENTIRE BATTLE!
SO ALL I GET OUT OF IT IS SOME SKINNED KNUCKLES!
IN OTHER WORDS, THE WONDERFUL PARKER LUCK IS STILL RUNNING TRUE TO FORM! NUTS!
NEXT
SPIDEY'S NEWEST SUPER-FOE!

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
73
JUNE
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
FEATURING:
MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO!
ROMITA
THE WEB CLOSES!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THE WEB CLOSES!
INTRODUCING: THE SENSATIONAL MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO
IT'S MY FAULT THAT CAPTAIN STACY WAS INJURED BY THE SHOCKER!
IF I HADN'T LEFT THAT ANCIENT TABLET HERE, HE WOULDN'T HAVE BROKEN IN TO STEAL IT!
BUT, NOW THAT I SEE THAT GWEN'S DAD IS OKAY, I...
UH OH! SOMEONE'S COMING!
ARE YOU COMFORTABLE, DAD? CAN I BRING YOU ANYTHING?
I'M FINE, THANKS, HONEY! FEELING AS GOOD AS NEW AGAIN!
OKAY... BUT IF YOU WANT ANYTHING, JUST BELLOW, FELLOW!
IT'S GWENDY! BOY... SHE MUST HAVE TAKEN A DOUBLE DOSE OF PRETTY PILLS TODAY!
AUTHORED BY: STAN (THE MAN) LEE
INNOVATED BY: BIG JOHN BUSCEMA
COORDINATED BY: JOHN (RING-A-DING) ROMITA
ILLUSTRATED BY: JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY
LETTERED BY: SLEEPY SAM ROSEN

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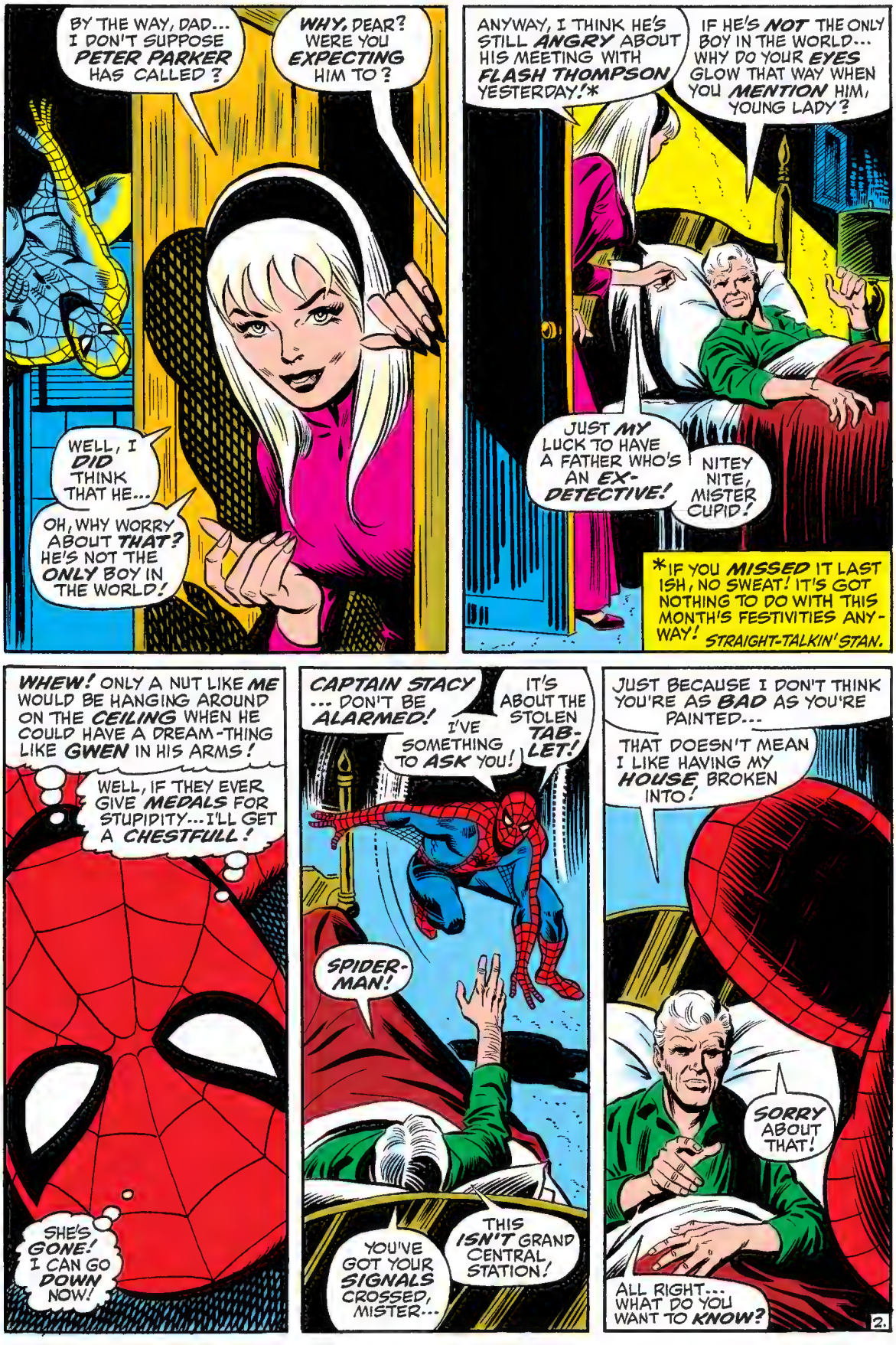
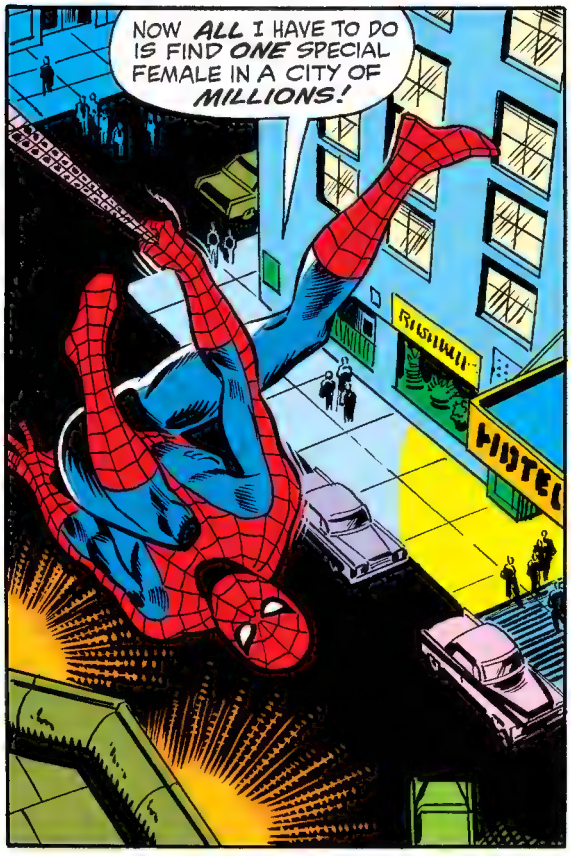
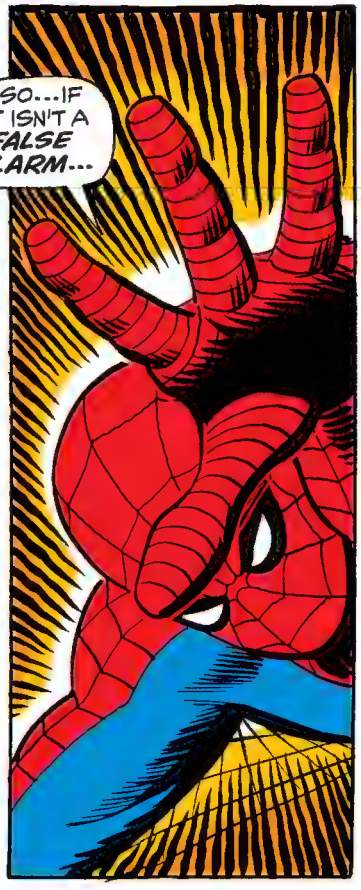

BY THE WAY, DAD... I DON'T SUPPOSE PETER PARKER HAS CALLED?
WHY, DEAR? WERE YOU EXPECTING HIM TO?
WELL, I DID THINK THAT HE...
OH, WHY WORRY ABOUT THAT? HE'S NOT THE ONLY BOY IN THE WORLD!
ANYWAY, I THINK HE'S STILL ANGRY ABOUT HIS MEETING WITH FLASH THOMPSON YESTERDAY!*
IF HE'S NOT THE ONLY BOY IN THE WORLD... WHY DO YOUR EYES GLOW THAT WAY WHEN YOU MENTION HIM, YOUNG LADY?
JUST MY LUCK TO HAVE A FATHER WHO'S AN EX-DETECTIVE!
NITEY NITE, MISTER CUPID!
*IF YOU MISSED IT LAST ISH, NO SWEAT! IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS MONTH'S FESTIVITIES ANYWAY! STRAIGHT-TALKIN' STAN.
WHEW! ONLY A NUT LIKE ME WOULD BE HANGING AROUND ON THE CEILING WHEN HE COULD HAVE A DREAM-THING LIKE GWEN IN HIS ARMS!
WELL, IF THEY EVER GIVE MEDALS FOR STUPIDITY... I'LL GET A CHESTFULL!
SHE'S GONE! I CAN GO DOWN NOW!
CAPTAIN STACY ... DON'T BE ALARMED!
I'VE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU!
IT'S ABOUT THE STOLEN TAB-LET!
SPIDER-MAN!
YOU'VE GOT YOUR SIGNALS CROSSED, MISTER...
THIS ISN'T GRAND CENTRAL STATION!
JUST BECAUSE I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AS BAD AS YOU'RE PAINTED...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I LIKE HAVING MY HOUSE BROKEN INTO!
SORRY ABOUT THAT!
ALL RIGHT... WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
2.

IT'S ABOUT THE SHOCKER!
WHEN HE STOLE THE TABLET FROM YOU, DID HE LEAVE ANY CLUES?
DID HE MENTION ANY PLACE WHERE HE MIGHT HAVE INTENDED TO HIDE IT??
I'M AFRAID HE WAS TOO SMART FOR THAT!
I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO CATCH HIM, AND HAVE HIM GIFT-WRAPPED FOR THE COPS...
BUT NOBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO LEARN WHERE HE STASHED THE STOLEN TABLET!
WHY ARE YOU SO INTERESTED?
THERE ARE STILL SOME DIE-HARDS, LIKE JONAH JAMESON, WHO THINK I HAD A HAND IN STEALING IT!
BUT, SINCE THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAT YOU CAN TELL ME...
AND SINCE I FORGOT TO BRING MY CRYING TOWEL...
THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY FOR ME TO SPLIT!
THE ONLY WAY I CAN REALLY CLEAR MYSELF IS TO FIND THE TABLET AGAIN... AND RETURN IT!
WAIT!
I JUST REMEMBER SOMETHING...
THE SHOCKER USED TO HAVE A GIRL FRIEND!
SHE PAID HIS BAIL ONCE OR TWICE!
WHAT BETTER PLACE TO HIDE THE TABLET THAN WITH HER??
TALK FASTER, MAN!
IT'S DRAFTY OUT HERE!
SHE USED TO BE IN SHOW BUSINESS... CALLED HERSELF AN EXOTIC DANCER!
SHE LIVED SOMEWHERE ON THE WEST SIDE... NEAR THE THEATRE DISTRICT!
KNOW SOMETHING? YOU'RE A REGULAR EARL WILSON!
THANKS FOR THE INFO, CAP! SEE YOU AROUND!
IF YOU RUN INTO TROUBLE... CALL THE POLICE!
DON'T TAKE THE LAW INTO YOUR OWN HANDS!
OH, PERISH FORBID!
3.


NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FIND ONE SPECIAL FEMALE IN A CITY OF MILLIONS!

AND I DIDN'T EVEN THINK TO ASK IF HE KNEW HER NAME!
OH WELL... IT'LL BE MORE SPORTING THIS WAY!
AT LEAST STACY NARROWED IT DOWN TO ONE NEIGHBORHOOD!

THEN, AFTER ABOUT AN HOUR OF WEARISOME WEB-SWINGING---
AT LAST! MY SPIDEY SENSE IS STARTING TO TINGLE!

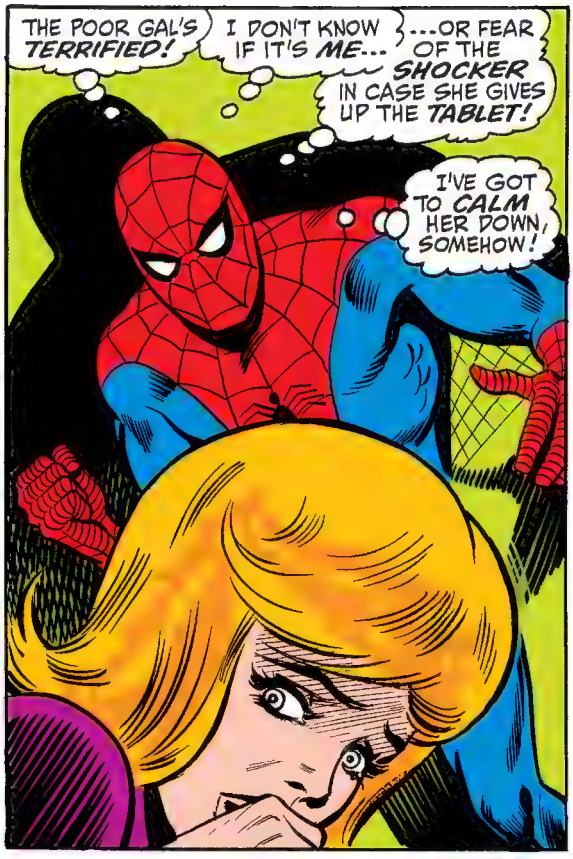

SO...IF IT ISN'T A FALSE ALARM...

I SHOULD BE ON TO SOMETHING!
THE TINGLING GETS STRONGER AS I COME CLOSER TO THAT WINDOW BELOW!
BUT WHAT'S ALL THAT RACKET I HEAR?
SOUNDS LIKE SOME KINDA FIGHT!
4.

VOICES... YELLING ABOUT A HIDDEN TABLET!
FOR ONCE I'M IN LUCK! I FOUND IT FIRST CRACK OUT OF THE BOX!
UH OH... WAIT A MINUTE!
MAYBE I'M NOT SO LUCKY! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT GUY!!
I TELL YOU I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
THE SHOCKER NEVER GAVE ME ANY TABLET!
YOU'VE... GOT TO BELIEVE ME!
MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE NOTHIN', SISTER!
THE MAGGIA'S TOP BRASS GOT WAYS OF FINDING THINGS OUT, SEE?
AND THEY SAY THE SHOCKER STASHED THAT HUNKA STONE HERE WITH YOU!
AND THEY DON'T PAY ME TO TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER!
BUT... IF THE SHOCKER EVER LEARNS ...THAT I DOUBLE-CROSSED HIM...
YOU MEAN THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT?
HE'S ALL TUCKED AWAY IN JAIL NOW, AIN'T HE?
BUT ME... I'M ON THE LOOSE!
AND I AIN'T LEAVIN' TILL I GET WHAT I CAME FOR!!
NO! NO! DON'T..!!
5

RELAX, SISTER! YOU AIN'T GONNA GET HURT---
PROVIDIN' I FIND THAT TABLET!
IT'S GOTTA BE HIDDEN HERE SOMEWHERE!
YOU---TORE THAT HEAVY SEAT APART... WITH YOUR BARE HANDS!
HOLD IT, BIG MAN! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD ABOUT INFLATION?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT COSTS TO UPHOLSTER A CHAIR NOWADAYS?
SPIDER-MAN!!
YA THINK YOU CAN STOP ME?
WELL, I DID SORT OF NURTURE THAT HOPE!
YOU'RE A REAL WISE-GUY, HUH?
WELL, WISE-GUYS BUG ME, SEE?
AND MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO DON'T LIKE TO BE BUGGED
ZOKK!

STILL AWAKE, HUH?
WELL, DON'T WORRY, SHORTY...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT REAL FAST!
HEY!
MAN-MOUNTAIN, HUH?
BTAMM!
TO ME, CHARLIE... YOU'RE JUST AN ANT-HILL!
NOW, LADY... ABOUT THAT TABLET--!!
IF YOU'LL GIVE IT TO ME... YOUR TROUBLES WILL BE OVER!
YOU... HANDLED THAT GIANT... LIKE HE WAS A TOY!!
YOU'RE ...AS DANGER-OUS... AS THEY SAY YOU ARE!
AWW, I'M JUST A PUSSY-CAT WHEN YOU GET TO KNOW ME!
7.


THE POOR GAL'S TERRIFIED!
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S ME...
...OR FEAR OF THE SHOCKER IN CASE SHE GIVES UP THE TABLET!
I'VE GOT TO CALM HER DOWN, SOMEHOW!

LOOK, MISS... THE SHOCKER CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR GIVING UP THE TABLET!
SINCE I ONCE MANAGED TO GET IT AWAY FROM HIM...
HE WOULDN'T EXPECT YOU TO HAVE ANY BETTER LUCK!
HE THOUGHT I'D BE OUT FOR GOOD!
WELL, HE'S GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO'S POWER!
I'LL TACKLE HIM NOW.. WHILE HE'S TRYIN' TO CON THE CHICK!

THROPP!
THIS MAKES US EVEN, PANTY-WAIST!

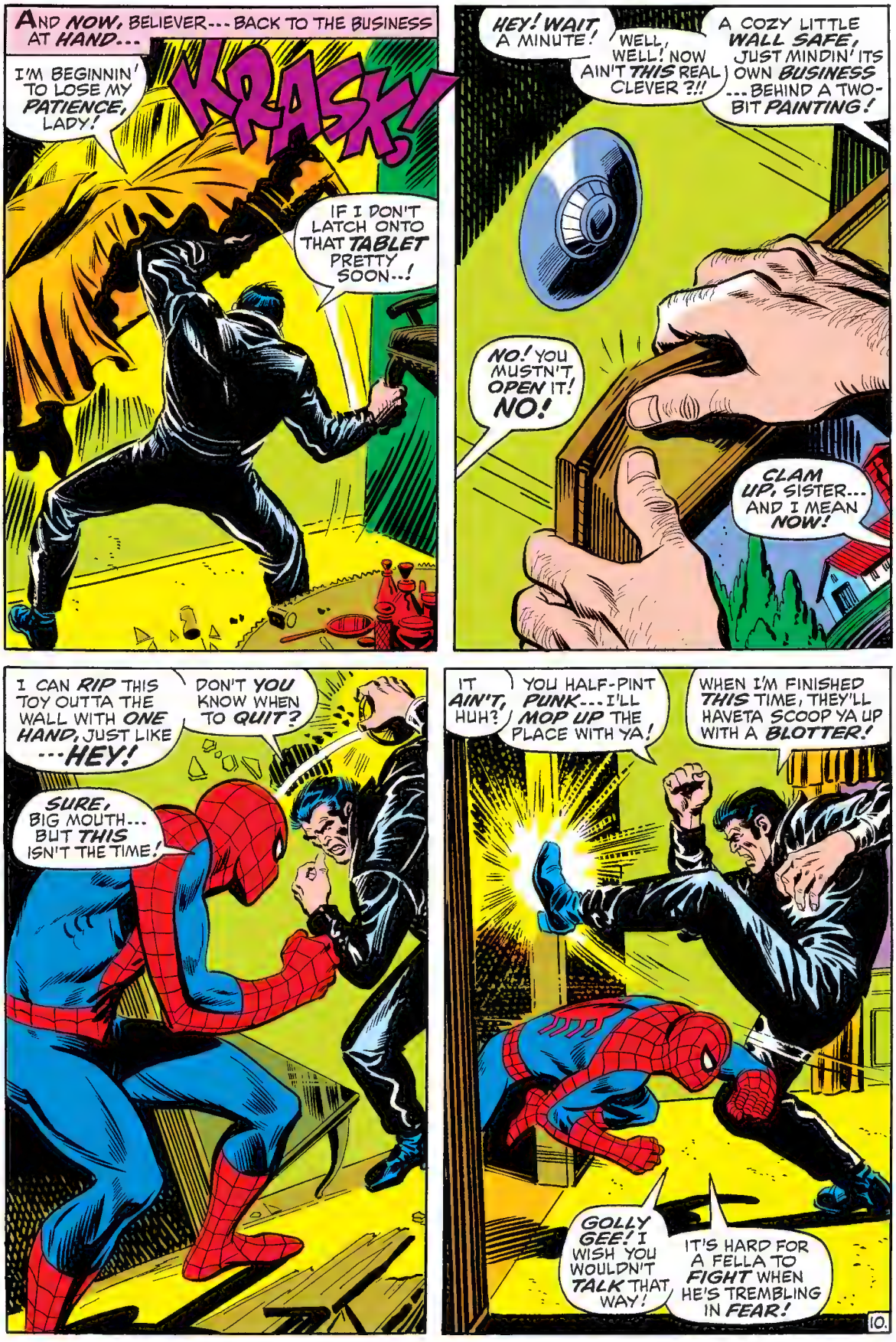
WE HATE TO CUT OUT AT A TIME LIKE THIS, BUT WE JUST REMEMBERED... THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON ACROSS TOWN WHICH WILL HAVE A GREAT EFFECT ON SPIDEY'S LIFE...!
FIRST THE KINGPIN STOLE THAT BLASTED TABLET... THEN SPIDER-MAN GOT IT... THEN THE SHOCKER... AND NOW, WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE I WAS A FOOL TO WORK FOR THE KINGPIN!
I GUESS HE'LL ALLOW ME TO LANGUISH IN HERE!
OKAY, WILSON.. LOOK ALIVE!
CLICK!
NOW WHAT?

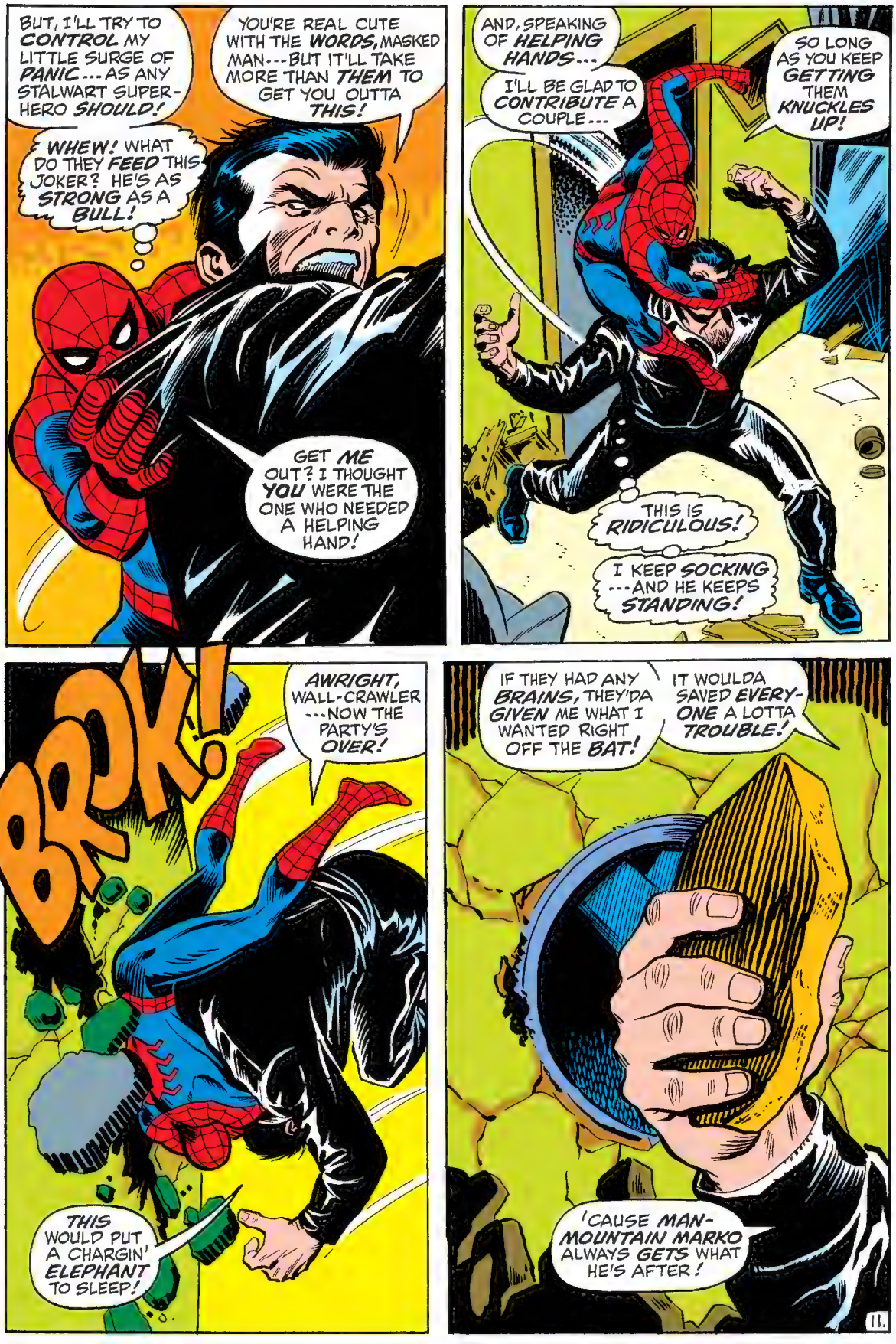
WE NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D BE WORTH THAT MUCH TO ANYONE---
BUT SOMEONE JUST POSTED YOUR BAIL!
YOU MEAN... I'M GOING FREE?!!
SO THE KINGPIN DID COME THRU FOR ME AFTER ALL!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN I'M MUCH TOO VALUABLE TO BE JUST WRITTEN-OFF!
GUESS AGAIN, MISTER!
IT WASN'T THE KINGPIN!
BUT THEN... WHO?

THE NAME IS CICERO... CAESAR CICERO!
GET YOUR THINGS AND FOLLOW ME, WILSON!
I HAVEN'T GOT ALL DAY!
IF YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH A CHARACTER LIKE HIM, I'M FIGURING YOU'LL BE BACK HERE PRETTY SOON!
WHY NOT THINK IT OVER, WILSON?
MISTER, I'D TAKE OFF WITH TYPHOID MARY JUST TO GET OUT OF HERE!

CAESAR CICERO! YOU'RE THE BIG-TIME MOUTHPIECE FOR THE MAGGIA!
WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO BAIL ME OUT?
HMM...YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY A CHATTERBOX, ARE YOU?
THE CAR'S WAITIN', BIG C!

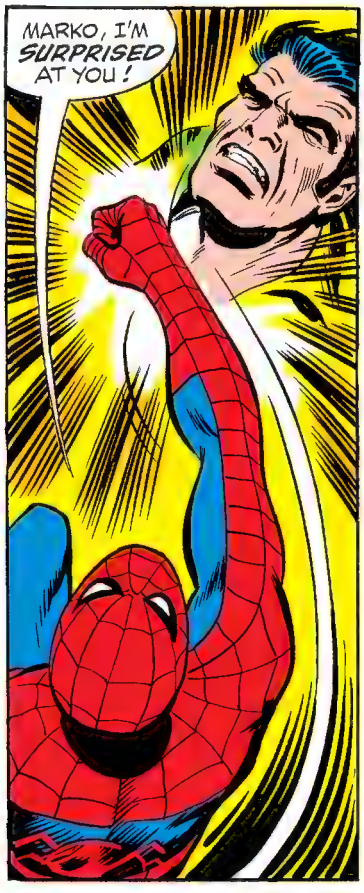
NOW LISTEN GOOD! I DON'T REPEAT THINGS!
YOU WERE THE KINGPIN'S BIGGEST BRAIN!
SO YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE TABLET THAN ANYONE!
THE TABLET?? BUT..I DON'T HAVE IT!
YEAH ---WE KNOW!
BUT I... I DON'T KNOW THE SECRET!
BUT IT'LL SOON BE OURS! AND WHEN IT IS---
THEN THAT'S JUST TOO BAD ---FOR YOU!
SOMEONE'S GOTTA TELL US WHAT ITS SECRET IS!
AND THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!

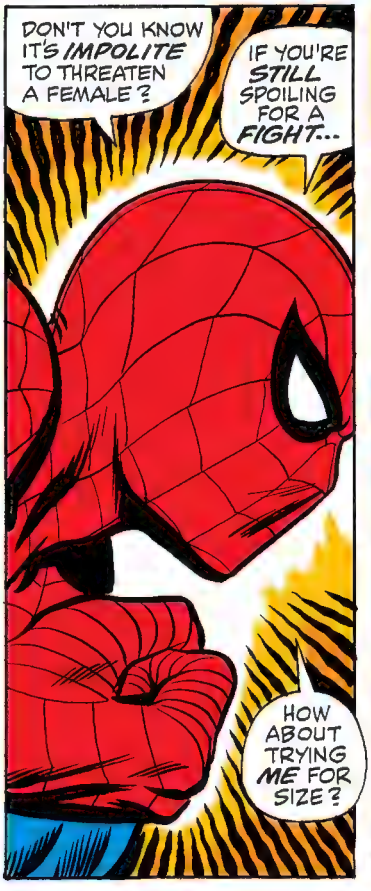

AND NOW, BELIEVER--- BACK TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND...
I'M BEGINNIN' TO LOSE MY PATIENCE, LADY!
KRASK!
IF I DON'T LATCH ONTO THAT TABLET PRETTY SOON--!
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
WELL, WELL! NOW AIN'T THIS REAL CLEVER ?!!
A COZY LITTLE WALL SAFE, JUST MINDIN' ITS OWN BUSINESS ...BEHIND A TWO-BIT PAINTING!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T OPEN IT! NO!
CLAM UP, SISTER... AND I MEAN NOW!
I CAN RIP THIS TOY OUTTA THE WALL WITH ONE HAND, JUST LIKE ---HEY!
DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN TO QUIT?
SURE, BIG MOUTH... BUT THIS ISN'T THE TIME!
IT AIN'T, HUH?
YOU HALF-PINT PUNK--- I'LL MOP UP THE PLACE WITH YA!
WHEN I'M FINISHED THIS TIME, THEY'LL HAVETA SCOOP YA UP WITH A BLOTTER!
GOLLY GEE! I WISH YOU WOULDN'T TALK THAT WAY!
IT'S HARD FOR A FELLA TO FIGHT WHEN HE'S TREMBLING IN FEAR!

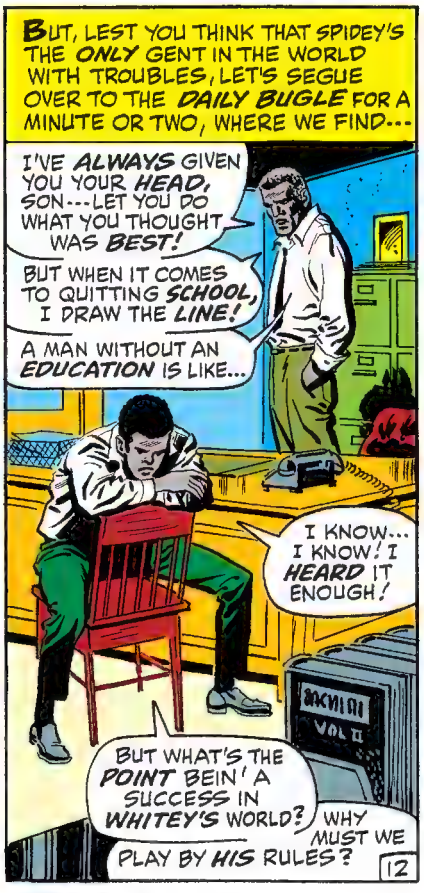

BUT, I'LL TRY TO CONTROL MY LITTLE SURGE OF PANIC... AS ANY STALWART SUPER-HERO SHOULD!
YOU'RE REAL CUTE WITH THE WORDS, MASKED MAN... BUT IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN THEM TO GET YOU OUTTA THIS!
WHEW! WHAT DO THEY FEED THIS JOKER? HE'S AS STRONG AS A BULL!
GET ME OUT? I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO NEEDED A HELPING HAND!
AND, SPEAKING OF HELPING HANDS...
I'LL BE GLAD TO CONTRIBUTE A COUPLE...
SO LONG AS YOU KEEP GETTING THEM KNUCKLES UP!
THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
I KEEP SOCKING ...AND HE KEEPS STANDING!
BROK!
AWRIGHT, WALL-CRAWLER ...NOW THE PARTY'S OVER!
THIS WOULD PUT A CHARGIN' ELEPHANT TO SLEEP!
IF THEY HAD ANY BRAINS, THEY'DA GIVEN ME WHAT I WANTED RIGHT OFF THE BAT!
IT WOULDA SAVED EVERY-ONE A LOTTA TROUBLE!
'CAUSE MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO ALWAYS GETS WHAT HE'S AFTER!

THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY, WEBHEAD!
IF I HADN'T FOUND THE TABLET, I MIGHTA REALLY GOT MAD AT YA!
TOO BAD THE DAME AIN'T GONNA BE SO LUCKY!

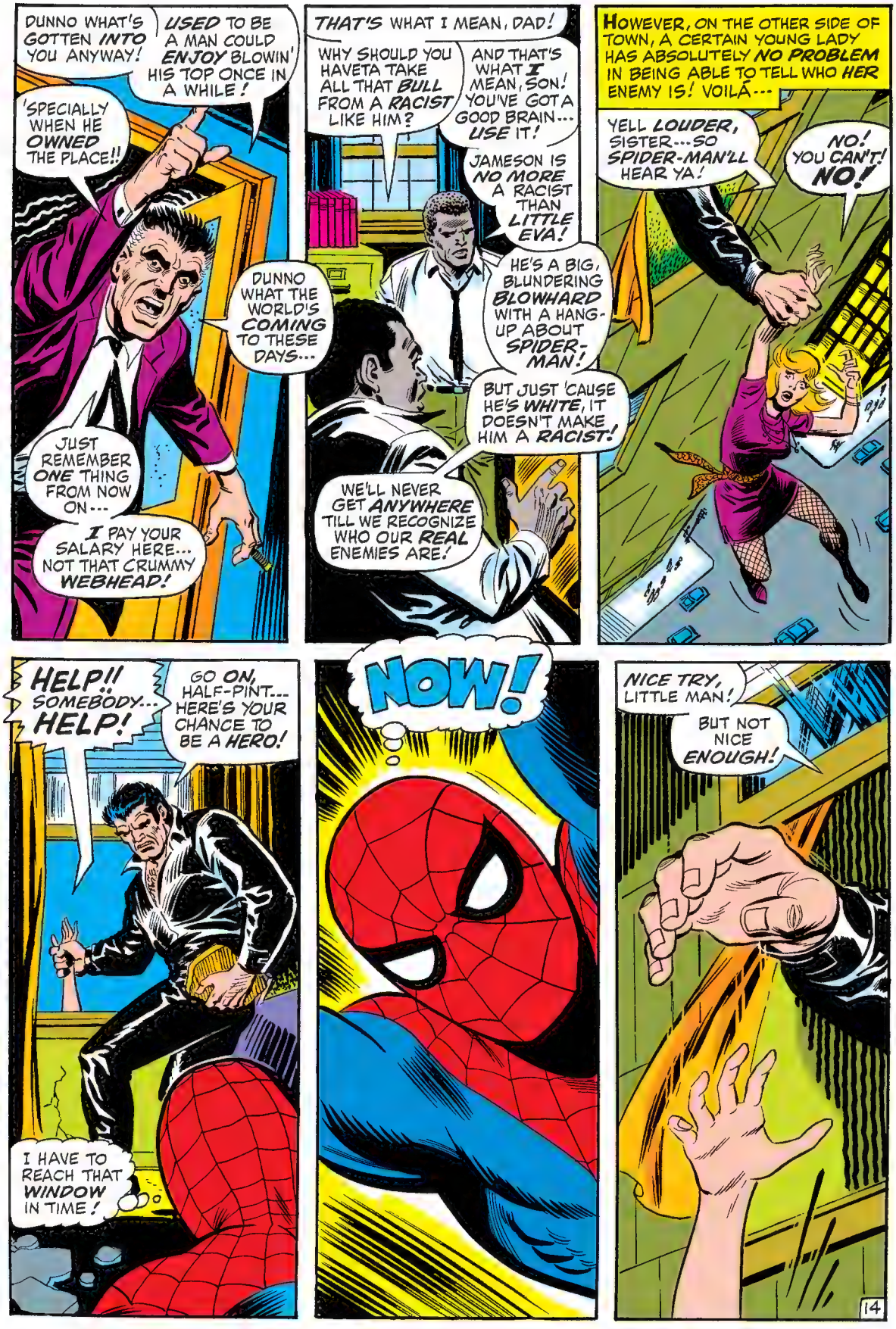
WHA--WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT??
I DON'T HAVETA WORRY ABOUT SPIDER-MAN--- HE CAN'T GO BLABBIN' TO THE COPS ANY MORE'N I CAN!
BUT THEY MIGHT LISTEN TO A PIGEON LIKE YOU...
AND LADY...YOU KNOW TOO MUCH!


MARKO, I'M SURPRISED AT YOU!

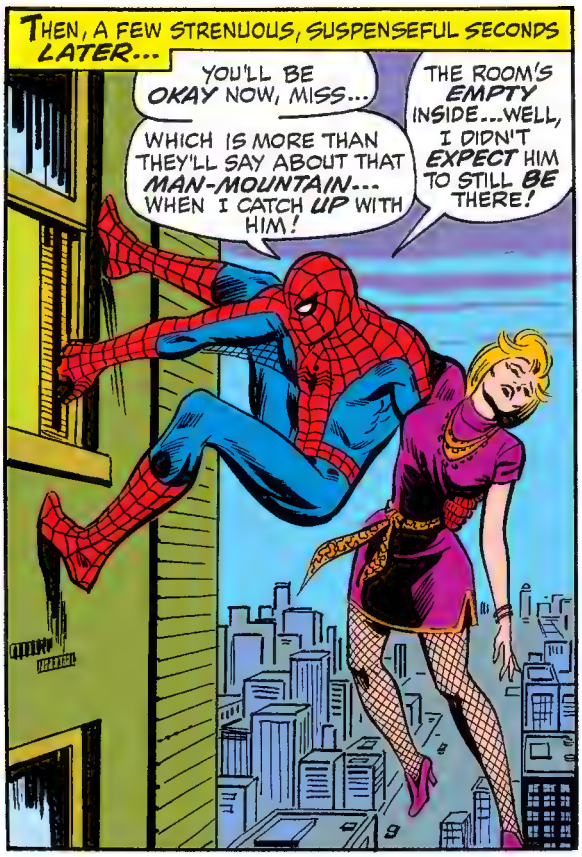

DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S IMPOLITE TO THREATEN A FEMALE?
IF YOU'RE STILL SPOILING FOR A FIGHT...
HOW ABOUT TRYING ME FOR SIZE?


BUT, LEST YOU THINK THAT SPIDEY'S THE ONLY GENT IN THE WORLD WITH TROUBLES, LET'S SEGUE OVER TO THE DAILY BUGLE FOR A MINUTE OR TWO, WHERE WE FIND---
I'VE ALWAYS GIVEN YOU YOUR HEAD, SON---LET YOU DO WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS BEST!
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO QUITTING SCHOOL, I DRAW THE LINE!
A MAN WITHOUT AN EDUCATION IS LIKE...
I KNOW... I KNOW! I HEARD IT ENOUGH!
BUT WHAT'S THE POINT BEIN' A SUCCESS IN WHITEY'S WORLD?
WHY MUST WE PLAY BY HIS RULES?

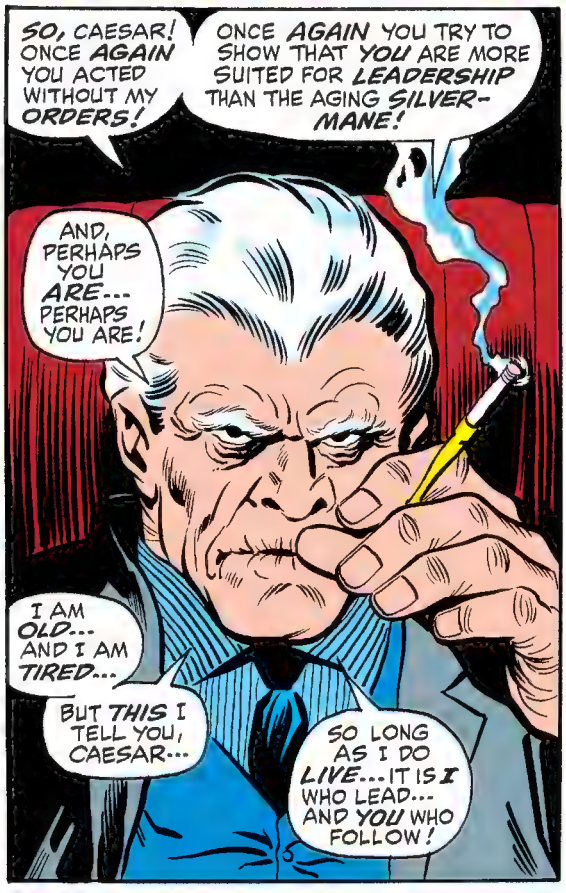
THE RULES ARE THE SAME, RANDY...NO MATTER WHO THE PLAYERS ARE...NO MATTER WHERE THE GAME IS PLAYED!
YOU WANNA BE A MILITANT... FINE! MAYBE WE NEED MORE OF THAT STRIPE!
BUT THE NAME OF THE GAME IS POWER, SON...
AND EDUCATION IS THE GREATEST POWER OF ALL!
THE WHOLE WORLD'S CHANGING, RANDY...AND MAYBE THE PARADE'S JUST PASSING ME BY!
BUT I STILL WANT WHAT'S BEST FOR MY PEOPLE ...WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU!
JUST OUTSIDE THAT DOOR ...ALL AROUND US...EVERY-WHERE...THERE'S A WAR GOING ON...
A WAR AGAINST BIGOTRY, INJUSTICE AND WANT!
IT TAKES WEAPONS TO FIGHT A WAR, SON...
AND WITHOUT EDUCATION...YOU'RE A SOLDIER UNARMED!
LOOK, DAD...I DIG WHAT YOU SAY...
AND I KNOW YOU'VE GOT IT MADE HERE IN WHITEY'S WORLD!
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER BROTHERS WHO PLAYED IT YOUR WAY...WHO GOT THEIR SHEEPSKINS...AND STILL CAN'T MAKE IT ON THE OUTSIDE?
I... WASN'T PROMISING... UTOPIA!
ROBERTSON! WHERE'S ROBERTSON??
AH HA!! THERE YOU ARE!
YOU QUISLING! YOU BENEDICT ARNOLD!
YOU MADE A HERO OUT OF SPIDER-MAN WHEN MY BACK WAS TURNED!
NOW WHOA, JJ ...SIMMER DOWN!
THE BUGLE'S SUPPOSED TO TELL IT LIKE IT IS, RIGHT?
WRONG!!
YOU KNOW HOW THE BUGLE FEELS ABOUT THAT WEB-SLINGING WEASEL... YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT HIM!!
SURE! SO WRITE ALL THE EDITORIALS YOU WANT...IT'S YOUR PAPER!
BUT THE NEWS COLUMNS ARE MY DEPARTMENT!
AND I CALL 'EM AS I SEE 'EM!
YOU THINK I CAN'T FIRE YOU?
YOU WON'T HAVE TO SACK ME, MAN!
WITH HIS WHOLE FUTURE AT STAKE... EVERYTHING HE'S SPENT A LIFETIME WORKING FOR...
IF YOU WANT THE NEWS DISTORTED, BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN PARANOIC VENDETTA...GET YOURSELF ANOTHER JOE!
DAD'S STANDING RIGHT UP TO HIM!
NOW WAIT ONE DING-DONG MINUTE THERE, ROBBIE!
I ACCEPT YOUR APOLOGY!!
13


DUNNO WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU ANYWAY!
USED TO BE A MAN COULD ENJOY BLOWIN' HIS TOP ONCE IN A WHILE!
'SPECIALLY WHEN HE OWNED THE PLACE!!
DUNNO WHAT THE WORLD'S COMING TO THESE DAYS...
JUST REMEMBER ONE THING FROM NOW ON...
I PAY YOUR SALARY HERE... NOT THAT CRUMMY WEBHEAD!
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN, DAD!
WHY SHOULD YOU HAVETA TAKE ALL THAT BULL FROM A RACIST LIKE HIM?
AND THAT'S WHAT I MEAN, SON! YOU'VE GOT A GOOD BRAIN... USE IT!
JAMESON IS NO MORE A RACIST THAN LITTLE EVA!
HE'S A BIG, BLUNDERING BLOWHARD WITH A HANG-UP ABOUT SPIDER-MAN!
BUT JUST 'CAUSE HE'S WHITE, IT DOESN'T MAKE HIM A RACIST!
WE'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE TILL WE RECOGNIZE WHO OUR REAL ENEMIES ARE!
HOWEVER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN, A CERTAIN YOUNG LADY HAS ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM IN BEING ABLE TO TELL WHO HER ENEMY IS! VOILÁ---
YELL LOUDER, SISTER---SO SPIDER-MAN'LL HEAR YA!
NO! YOU CAN'T! NO!
HELP!! SOMEBODY... HELP!
GO ON, HALF-PINT... HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE A HERO!
I HAVE TO REACH THAT WINDOW IN TIME!
NOW!
NICE TRY, LITTLE MAN!
BUT NOT NICE ENOUGH!
14

HAH! I FIGGERED YOU'D GO OUT THE WINDOW, TRYIN' TO SAVE 'ER!
WELL, LOTS OF LUCK, MASKED MAN! YER SURE GONNA NEED IT!
NO MATTER HOW YA MAKE OUT--- I'M THE WINNER!
I GOT WHAT I CAME FOR!
SHE HASN'T REACHED THE GROUND YET!
IF I CAN JUST SHOOT MY WEB FAST ENOUGH---!
THWIPP!
GOT HER!
EASY NOW--- EEEEASY!
I ONLY HAD TIME TO SHOOT OUT A REAL THIN STRAND!
IT JUST HAS TO HOLD!
15.

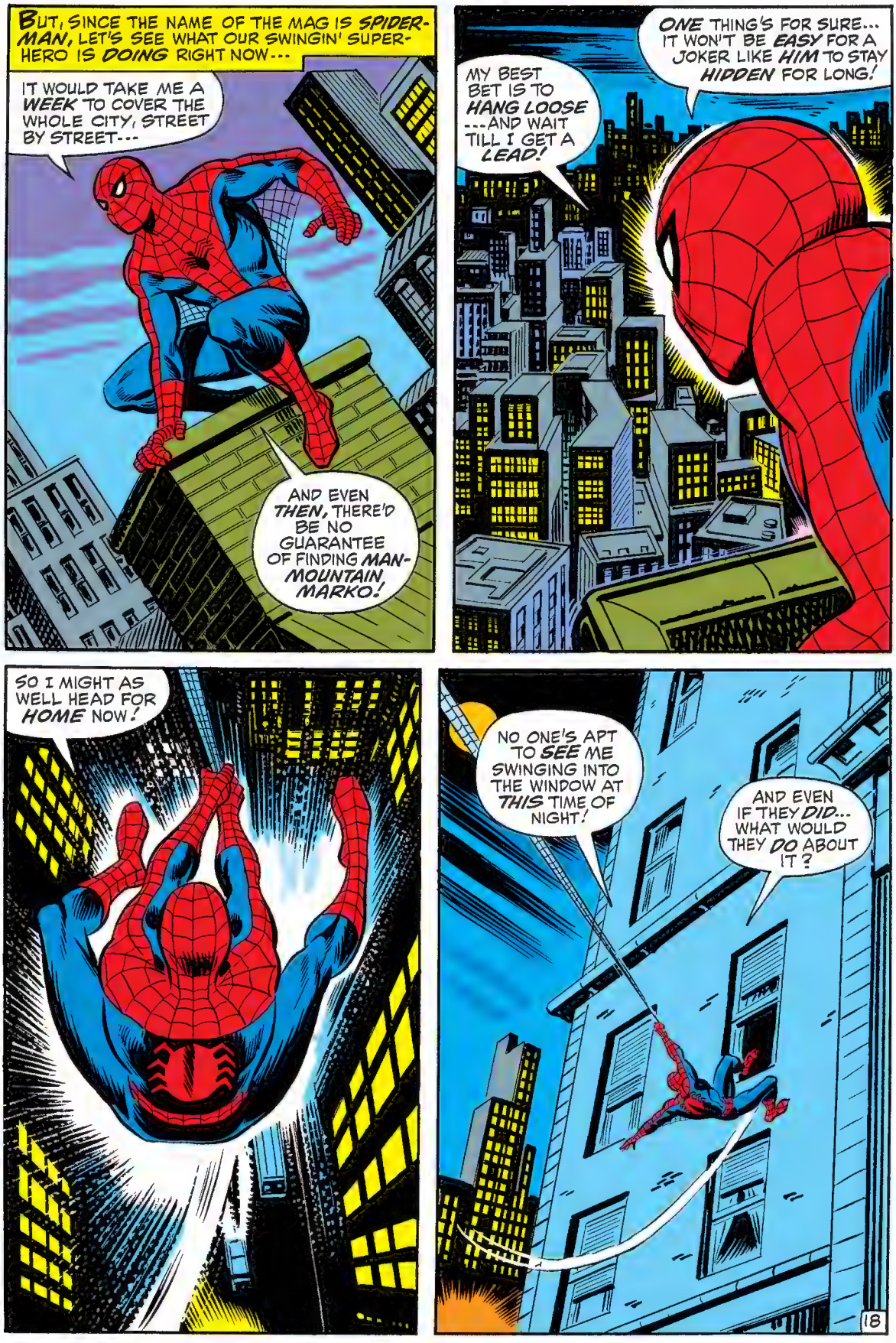

THEN, A FEW STRENUOUS, SUSPENSEFUL SECONDS LATER...
YOU'LL BE OKAY NOW, MISS...
WHICH IS MORE THAN THEY'LL SAY ABOUT THAT MAN-MOUNTAIN... WHEN I CATCH UP WITH HIM!
THE ROOM'S EMPTY INSIDE...WELL, I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO STILL BE THERE!

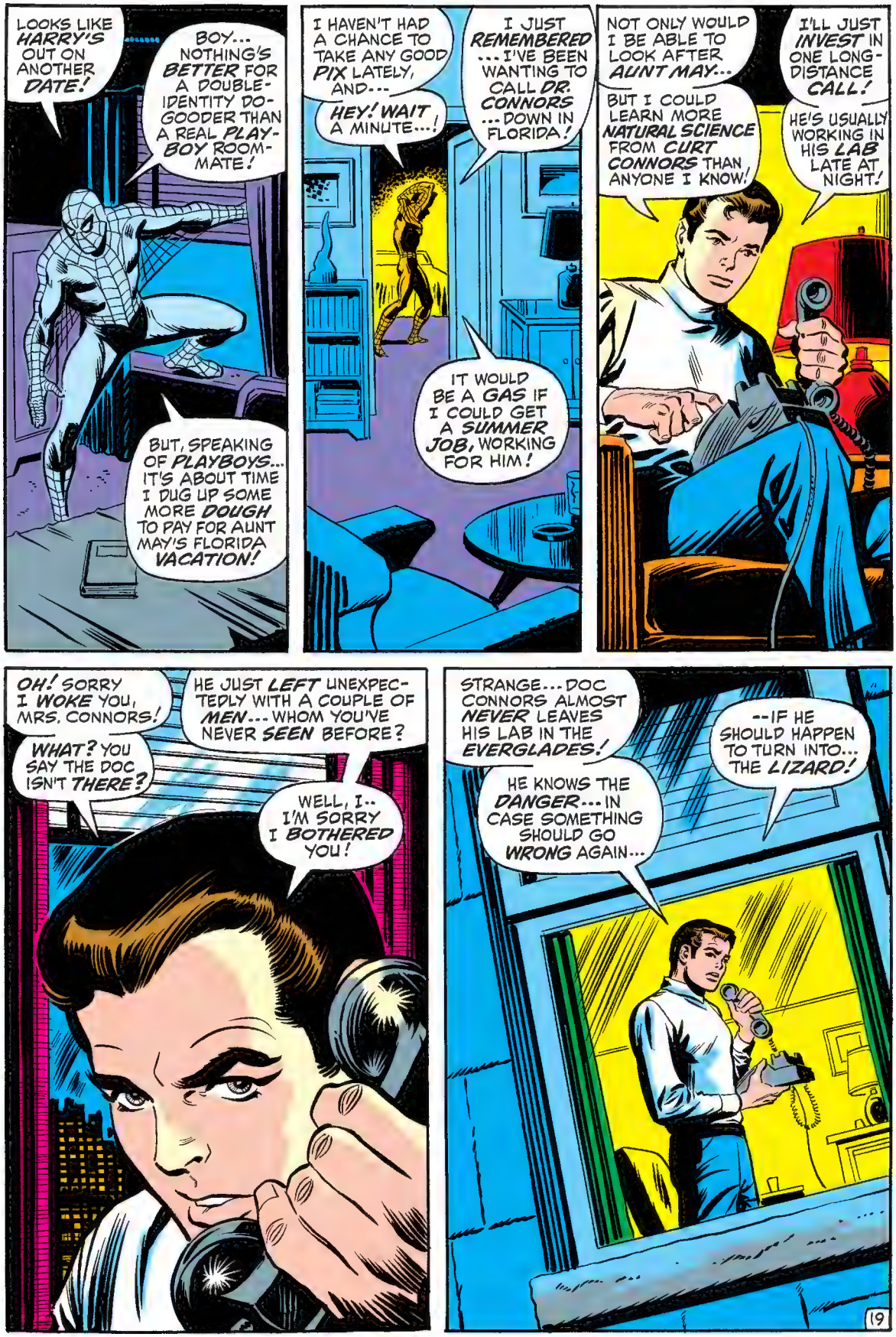
AND NOW, WHILE SPIDEY CATCHES HIS BREATH... LET'S SHIFT OUR SCENE ONCE MORE...
YOU SAY YOU WANT TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE TABLET!
SO I BRING YOU A MAN WHO CAN HELP TO DO IT!
YOU...YOU'RE THE MAN CALLED SILVERMANE...!
ONE OF THE LAST OF THE LEGENDARY, OLD-TIME LEADERS OF...THE MAGGIA!
AND YOU ARE BUT A WORTHLESS PAWN OF THE KINGPIN!


SO, CAESAR! ONCE AGAIN YOU ACTED WITHOUT MY ORDERS!
ONCE AGAIN YOU TRY TO SHOW THAT YOU ARE MORE SUITED FOR LEADERSHIP THAN THE AGING SILVERMANE!
AND, PERHAPS YOU ARE... PERHAPS YOU ARE!
I AM OLD... AND I AM TIRED...
BUT THIS I TELL YOU, CAESAR...
SO LONG AS I DO LIVE...IT IS I WHO LEAD... AND YOU WHO FOLLOW!

NOW GO! I KNOW YOU ARE ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO YOUR PLOTTING...
SINCE YOU ARE HERE, WILSON, YOU WILL REMAIN!
AS YOU SCHEME ANEW FOR A MEANS TO DEPOSE ME!
THE TABLET IS ON ITS WAY... WE WILL STUDY IT TOGETHER!
AND WHAT ABOUT ME?
NOT EVEN YOU CAN ORDER ME ABOUT THIS WAY, SILVERMANE!
DO NOT PROVOKE ME, CAESAR!
I AM OLD ...BUT THE POWER STILL IS MINE!

I GOT IT, BOSS! I SNATCHED IT OUTTA THE GIRL'S APART-MENT!
NOT EVEN SPIDER-MAN COULD STOP ME!
IT'S THE ANCIENT TABLET... THE MOST PRICELESS STONE OF ALL TIME!
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, MARKO!
BUT I KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL ME!
WHAT MAKES THAT CRUMMY HUNKA ROCK SO VALUABLE, SILVERMANE?
THAT, MY GIGANTIC UNDERLING, IS WHAT I SOON INTEND TO LEARN!
WILSON! STUDY IT... MAKE CERTAIN IT IS GENUINE!
IT'S THE McCOY, ALL RIGHT! I'D KNOW IT ANYWHERE!
WHAT DO ALL THEM NUTTY-LOOKIN' SCRATCHES ON IT MEAN?
THEY ARE ANCIENT HEIRO-GLYPHICS...
WHICH NO MAN HAS YET BEEN ABLE TO TRANSLATE!
BUT, THEY ARE THE KEY TO ONE OF THE GREATEST SECRETS OF ALL TIME!
YEAH? AND WHAT'S THAT, BOSS?
AHH... IF I TOLD YOU, THEN IT WOULD BE A SECRET NO LONGER!
17.


BUT, SINCE THE NAME OF THE MAG IS SPIDER-MAN, LET'S SEE WHAT OUR SWINGIN' SUPER-HERO IS DOING RIGHT NOW---
IT WOULD TAKE ME A WEEK TO COVER THE WHOLE CITY, STREET BY STREET---
AND EVEN THEN, THERE'D BE NO GUARANTEE OF FINDING MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO!
ONE THING'S FOR SURE... IT WON'T BE EASY FOR A JOKER LIKE HIM TO STAY HIDDEN FOR LONG!
MY BEST BET IS TO HANG LOOSE ---AND WAIT TILL I GET A LEAD!
SO I MIGHT AS WELL HEAD FOR HOME NOW!
NO ONE'S APT TO SEE ME SWINGING INTO THE WINDOW AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT!
AND EVEN IF THEY DID... WHAT WOULD THEY DO ABOUT IT?


LOOKS LIKE HARRY'S OUT ON ANOTHER DATE!
BOY... NOTHING'S BETTER FOR A DOUBLE-IDENTITY DO-GOODER THAN A REAL PLAY-BOY ROOM-MATE!
BUT, SPEAKING OF PLAYBOYS... IT'S ABOUT TIME I DUG UP SOME MORE DOUGH TO PAY FOR AUNT MAY'S FLORIDA VACATION!
I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TAKE ANY GOOD PIX LATELY, AND...
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE...!
I JUST REMEMBERED ...I'VE BEEN WANTING TO CALL DR. CONNORS ...DOWN IN FLORIDA!
IT WOULD BE A GAS IF I COULD GET A SUMMER JOB, WORKING FOR HIM!
NOT ONLY WOULD I BE ABLE TO LOOK AFTER AUNT MAY...
BUT I COULD LEARN MORE NATURAL SCIENCE FROM CURT CONNORS THAN ANYONE I KNOW!
I'LL JUST INVEST IN ONE LONG-DISTANCE CALL!
HE'S USUALLY WORKING IN HIS LAB LATE AT NIGHT!
OH! SORRY I WOKE YOU, MRS. CONNORS!
WHAT? YOU SAY THE DOC ISN'T THERE?
HE JUST LEFT UNEXPECTEDLY WITH A COUPLE OF MEN... WHOM YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE?
WELL, I.. I'M SORRY I BOTHERED YOU!
STRANGE... DOC CONNORS ALMOST NEVER LEAVES HIS LAB IN THE EVERGLADES!
HE KNOWS THE DANGER... IN CASE SOMETHING SHOULD GO WRONG AGAIN...
--IF HE SHOULD HAPPEN TO TURN INTO... THE LIZARD!
19

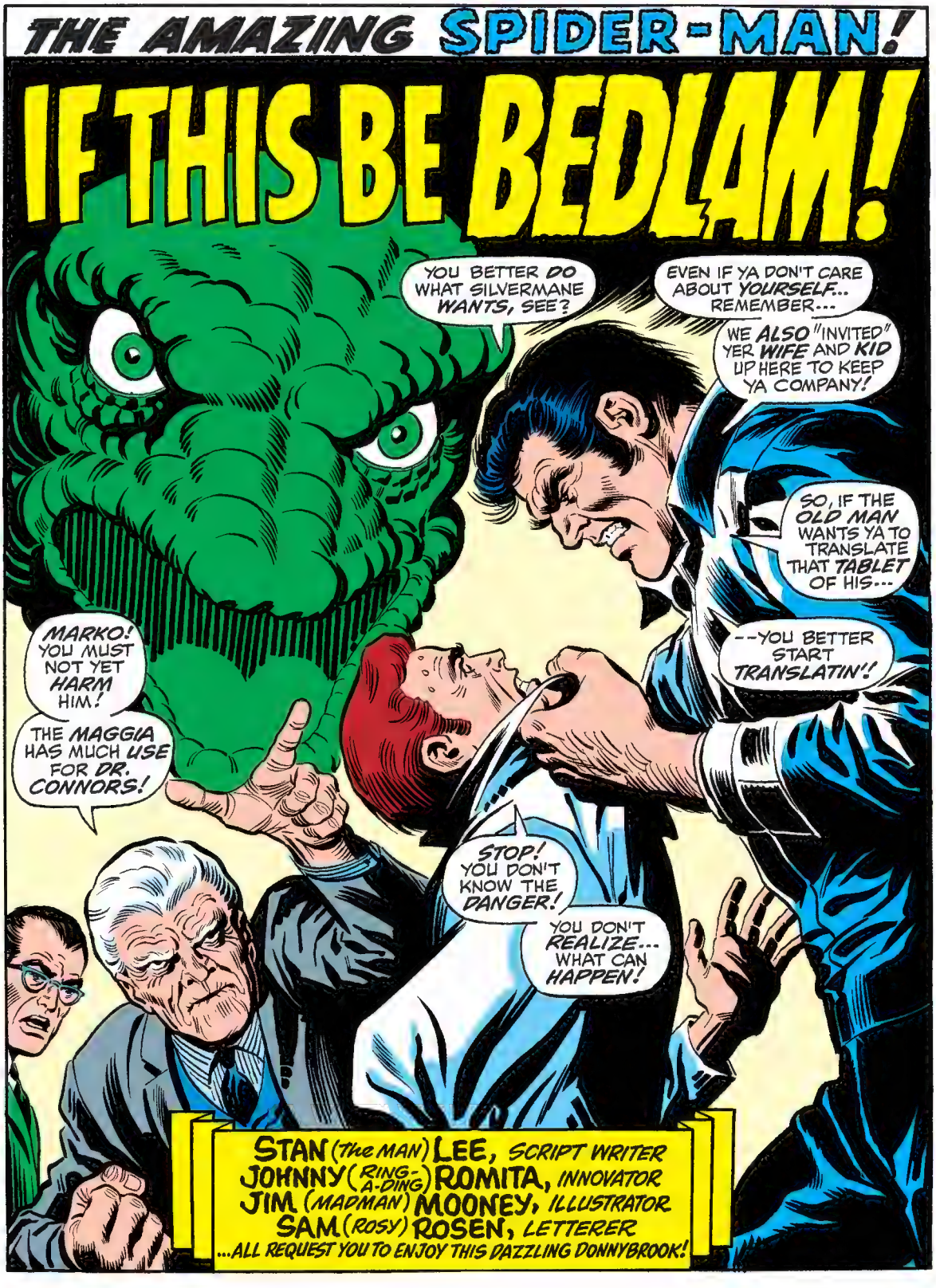
SOMEHOW, I CAN'T GET HIM OUT OF MY MIND...
AND I CAN'T STOP WONDERING WHO THOSE TWO MEN WERE...
OR WHERE HE WENT WITH THEM... IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT ...OR WHY??
Love Gwen

HOWEVER, IT SEEMS THAT WE SHALL LEARN THE ANSWER BEFORE PETER PARKER DOES, AS WE RETURN TO THE LUXURIOUS HEADQUARTERS OF THE MAN CALLED SILVERMANE...
SO...YOU WANT THE SECRET OF THE TABLET, EH?
ALL IT TOOK WAS ONE PHONE CALL TO OUR BOYS DOWN SOUTH...
TO GET THEM TO PUT DR. CONNORS ON THE FIRST PLANE TO NEW YORK!
AGAIN YOU PROVE YOURSELF MORE CAPABLE OF DE-CISION THAN THE AGED SILVER-MANE, EH, MY FRIEND?
I PROVE NOTHING... EXCEPT MY LOYALTY TO THE MAGGIA!
THE MAGGIA!! WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

LOOK...I'M JUST A DIME-A-DOZEN RESEARCH SCIENTIST FROM THE EVERGLADES!
YOU UNDERESTIMATE YOURSELF, DOCTOR! YOU ARE JUST THE MAN WE NEED!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFTER, BUT YOU GRABBED YOURSELF THE WRONG MAN!
BUT YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE! IT... IT ISN'T SAFE!
IS THAT A FACT?
AND JUST WHY ISN'T IT SAFE, CONNORS?

I...CAN'T ANSWER THAT!!
NEXT
ALL BEDLAM BREAKS LOOSE!

SPIDER-MAN
12¢
IND.
74
JULY
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
ROMITA
FEATURING:
THE FANTASTIC SECRET OF THE PETRIFIED TABLET!


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!
IF THIS BE BEDLAM!
YOU BETTER DO WHAT SILVERMANE WANTS, SEE?
EVEN IF YA DON'T CARE ABOUT YOURSELF... REMEMBER...
WE ALSO "INVITED" YER WIFE AND KID UP HERE TO KEEP YA COMPANY!
SO, IF THE OLD MAN WANTS YA TO TRANSLATE THAT TABLET OF HIS...
--YOU BETTER START TRANSLATIN'!
MARKO! YOU MUST NOT YET HARM HIM!
THE MAGGIA HAS MUCH USE FOR DR. CONNORS!
STOP! YOU DON'T KNOW THE DANGER!
YOU DON'T REALIZE... WHAT CAN HAPPEN!
STAN (The MAN) LEE, SCRIPT WRITER
JOHNNY (RING-A-DING) ROMITA, INNOVATOR
JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY, ILLUSTRATOR
SAM (ROSY) ROSEN, LETTERER
...ALL REQUEST YOU TO ENJOY THIS DAZZLING DONNYBROOK!

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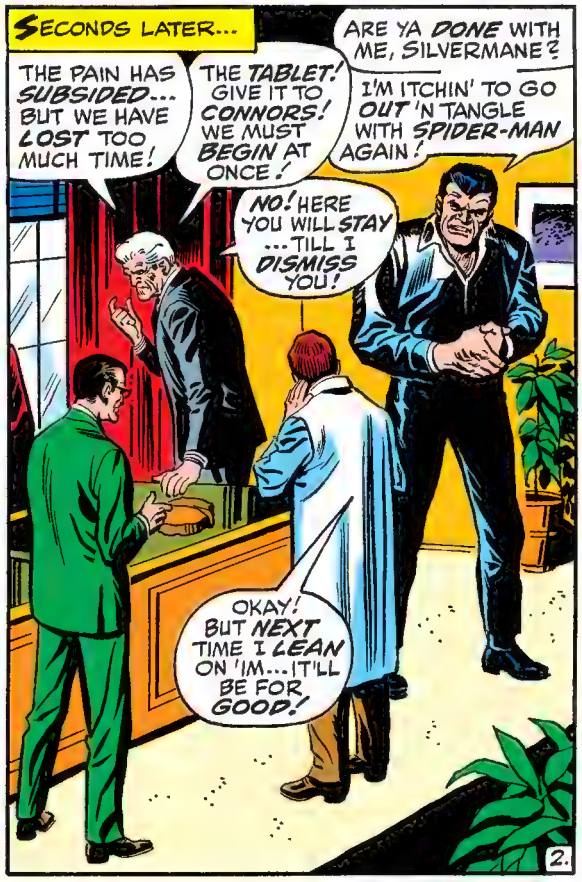
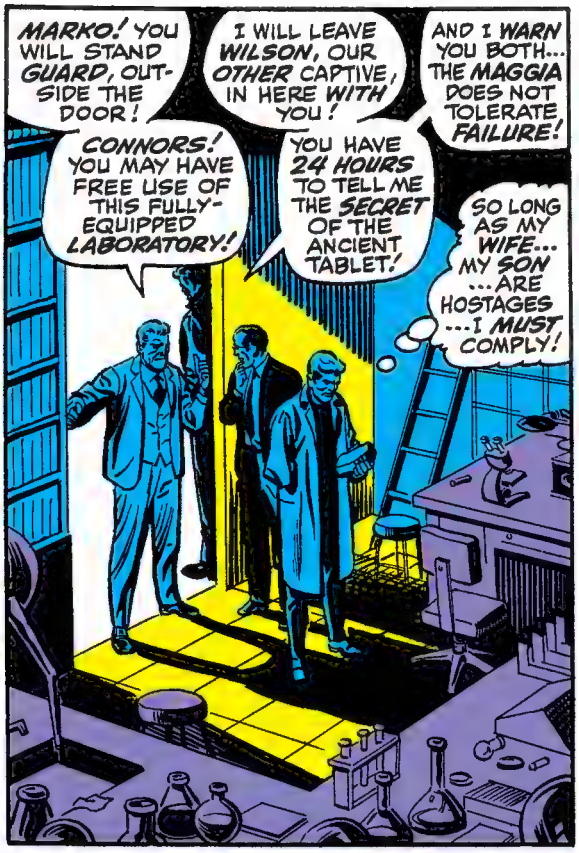
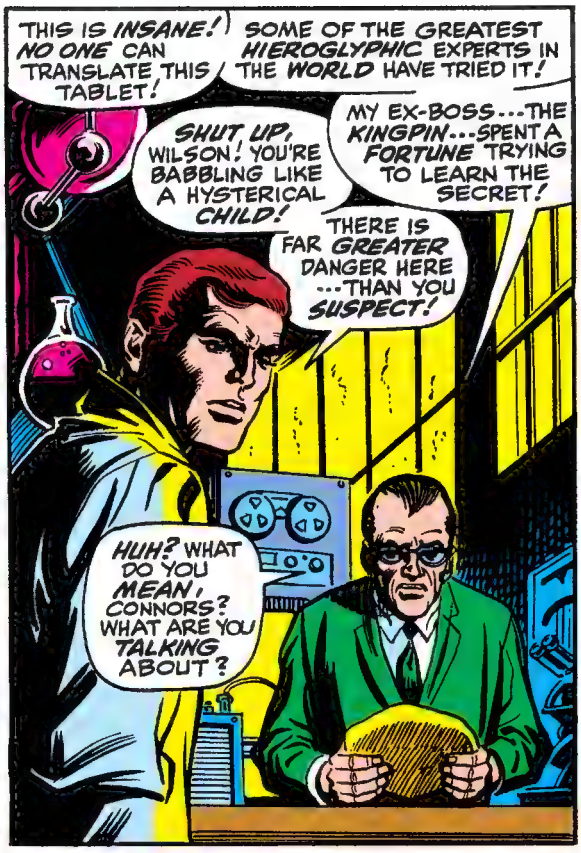
MARKO! IF YOU INJURE HIM, HE WILL BE USELESS TO US!
LOOK... IF YA WANNA CONVINCE THE PUNK--- LEMME DO IT MY WAY!
AIN'T NOBODY CAN ROUGH A GUY UP LIKE MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO!
JUST STAND BACK, SILVER-MANE...AND I'LL SHOW YA!

THAP!
YOU THINK YOU SPEAK TO SOME CHEAP, STREET-CORNER HOOD?
I MAY BE OLD ...BUT I AM STILL LEADER HERE!
NO ONE BUT SILVER-MANE GIVES THE ORDERS!

YOU HAD NO CALL TO SHAME ME THAT WAY... IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY!
WE WILL SPEAK OF IT NO MORE!
I MUST... PAUSE, FOR A MOMENT! THE EXERTION HAS ---CAUSED MY PAIN ...TO RETURN!
A PITY... THAT CAESAR CICERO... IS NOT HERE!
HOW MY SCHEMING RIVAL WOULD ENJOY... THIS EVIDENCE OF... AN OLD MAN'S FRAILTY!


SECONDS LATER...
ARE YA DONE WITH ME, SILVERMANE?
THE PAIN HAS SUBSIDED... BUT WE HAVE LOST TOO MUCH TIME!
THE TABLET! GIVE IT TO CONNORS! WE MUST BEGIN AT ONCE!
I'M ITCHIN' TO GO OUT 'N TANGLE WITH SPIDER-MAN AGAIN!
NO! HERE YOU WILL STAY ...TILL I DISMISS YOU!
OKAY! BUT NEXT TIME I LEAN ON 'IM... IT'LL BE FOR GOOD!

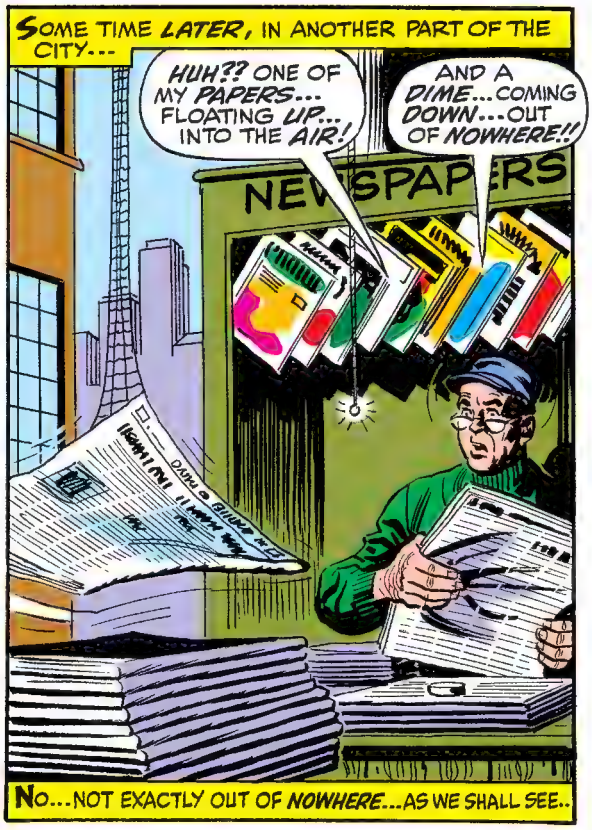

MARKO! YOU WILL STAND GUARD, OUTSIDE THE DOOR!
I WILL LEAVE WILSON, OUR OTHER CAPTIVE, IN HERE WITH YOU!
AND I WARN YOU BOTH... THE MAGGIA DOES NOT TOLERATE FAILURE!
CONNORS! YOU MAY HAVE FREE USE OF THIS FULLY-EQUIPPED LABORATORY!
YOU HAVE 24 HOURS TO TELL ME THE SECRET OF THE ANCIENT TABLET!
SO LONG AS MY WIFE... MY SON ...ARE HOSTAGES ...I MUST COMPLY!


THIS IS INSANE! NO ONE CAN TRANSLATE THIS TABLET!
SOME OF THE GREATEST HIEROGLYPHIC EXPERTS IN THE WORLD HAVE TRIED IT!
SHUT UP, WILSON! YOU'RE BABBLING LIKE A HYSTERICAL CHILD!
MY EX-BOSS...THE KINGPIN...SPENT A FORTUNE TRYING TO LEARN THE SECRET!
THERE IS FAR GREATER DANGER HERE ...THAN YOU SUSPECT!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CONNORS? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

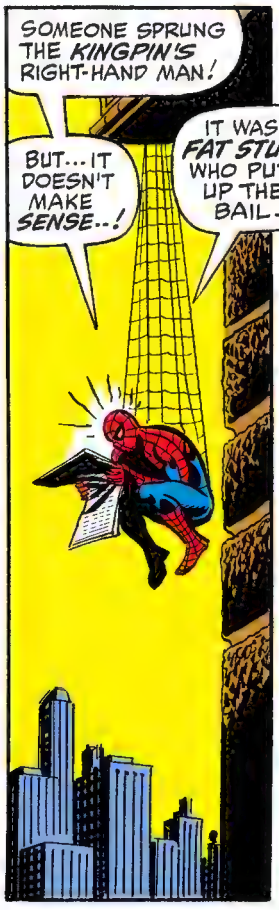
IT'S STARTING TO HAPPEN AGAIN... JUST AS I FEARED!
BUT I MUST FIGHT IT... I MUST REMAIN NORMAL... I CAN'T CHANGE...TO THE LIZARD ...NOT NOW... NOT NOW!
YOUR FACE! THAT LOOK OF PAIN!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, MAN??

MARTHA AND BILLY...IF I CAN JUST KEEP THINKING OF THEM...CONCENTRATING ON THEM... IF I CAN DRIVE EVERYTHING ELSE FROM MY MIND...!
IT...IT WORKED! THE MOMENT PASSED! MY FINGERS ARE HUMAN ONCE MORE!
BUT...FOR HOW LONG? FOR HOW LONG??
IT'S NOTHING, WILSON! JUST...A HEADACHE!
AND NOW... I'VE GOT TO WORK...AS I'VE NEVER WORKED BEFORE!

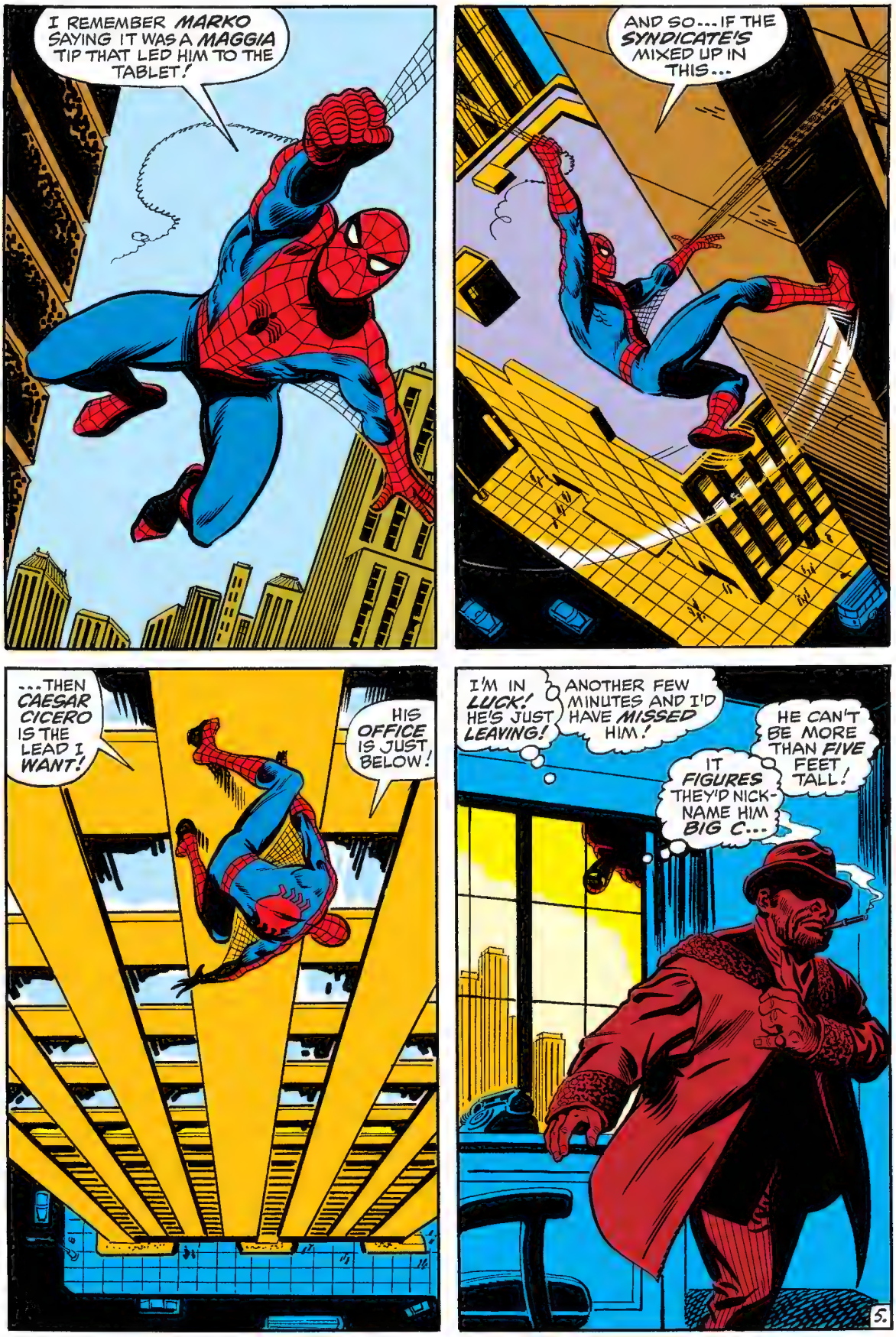
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE TABLET...AND READ ABOUT IT!
THEN THAT'S WHY THEY CAPTURED YOU--- BECAUSE YOU'RE A BIOLOGIST!
WHATEVER FANTASTIC SECRET IT CONTAINS...HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH BIOLOGY... WITH THE MYSTERY OF LIFE ITSELF!
BUT, WHAT DO WE DO NEXT? HOW DO WE UNRAVEL THE SECRET?
LET ME WORRY ABOUT THAT!
JUST TAKE OFF YOUR COAT ...AND STAND BY TO HELP!

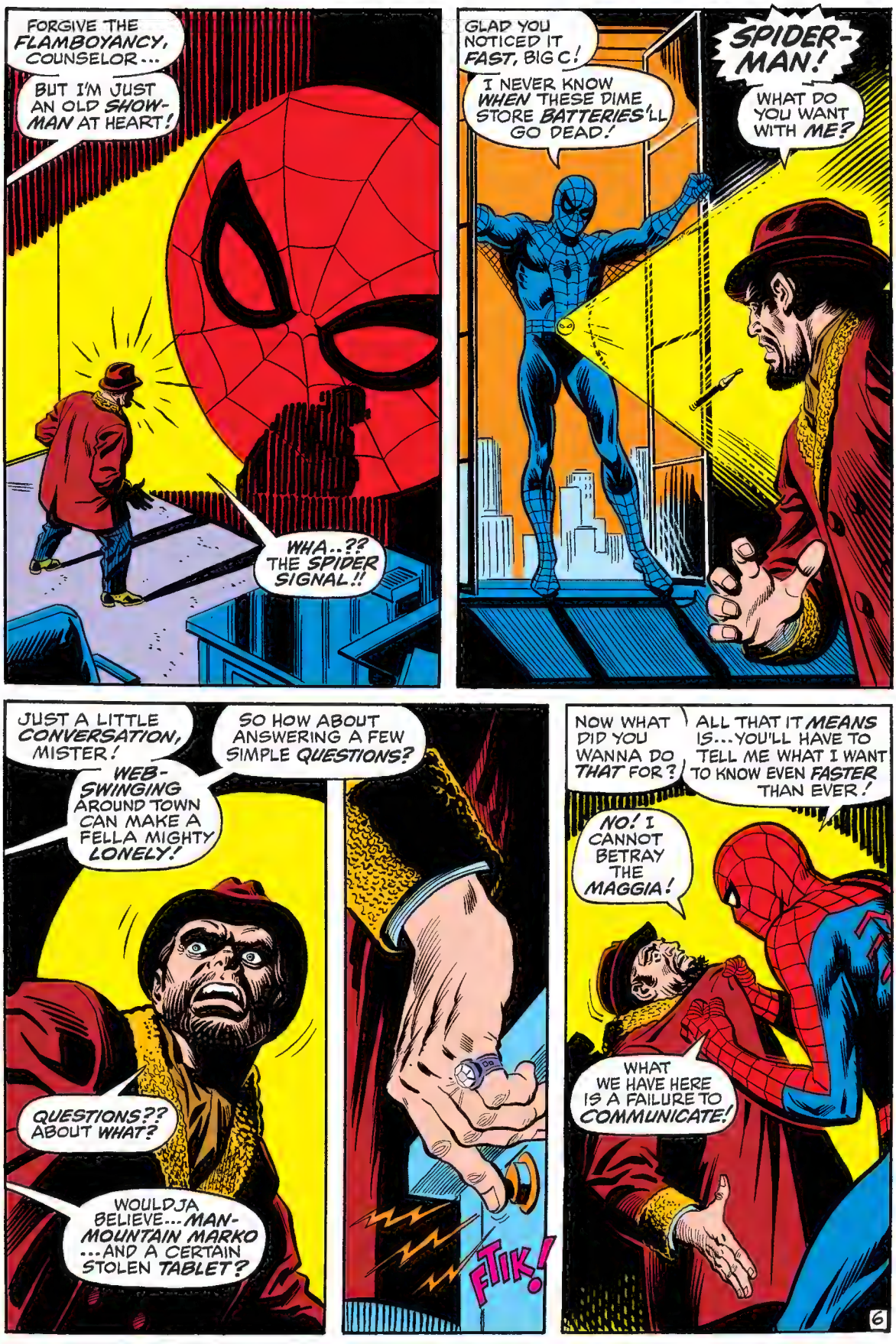

SOME TIME LATER, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...
HUH?? ONE OF MY PAPERS... FLOATING UP... INTO THE AIR!
AND A DIME...COMING DOWN...OUT OF NOWHERE!!
NEWSPAPERS
NO...NOT EXACTLY OUT OF NOWHERE...AS WE SHALL SEE..

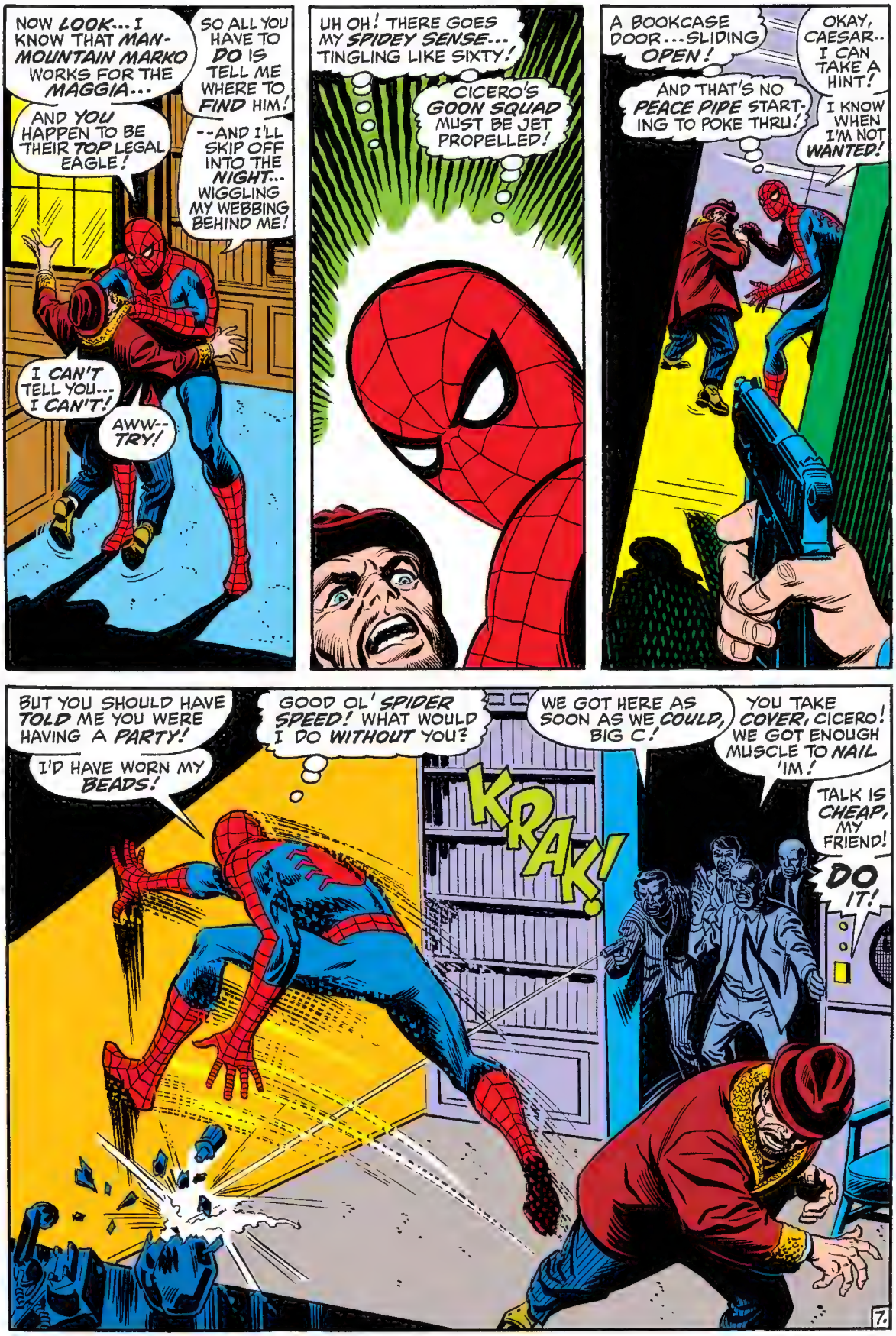
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE BUGLE THAT'LL GIVE ME A LEAD ON MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO!
SAY! WHAT'S THIS...?

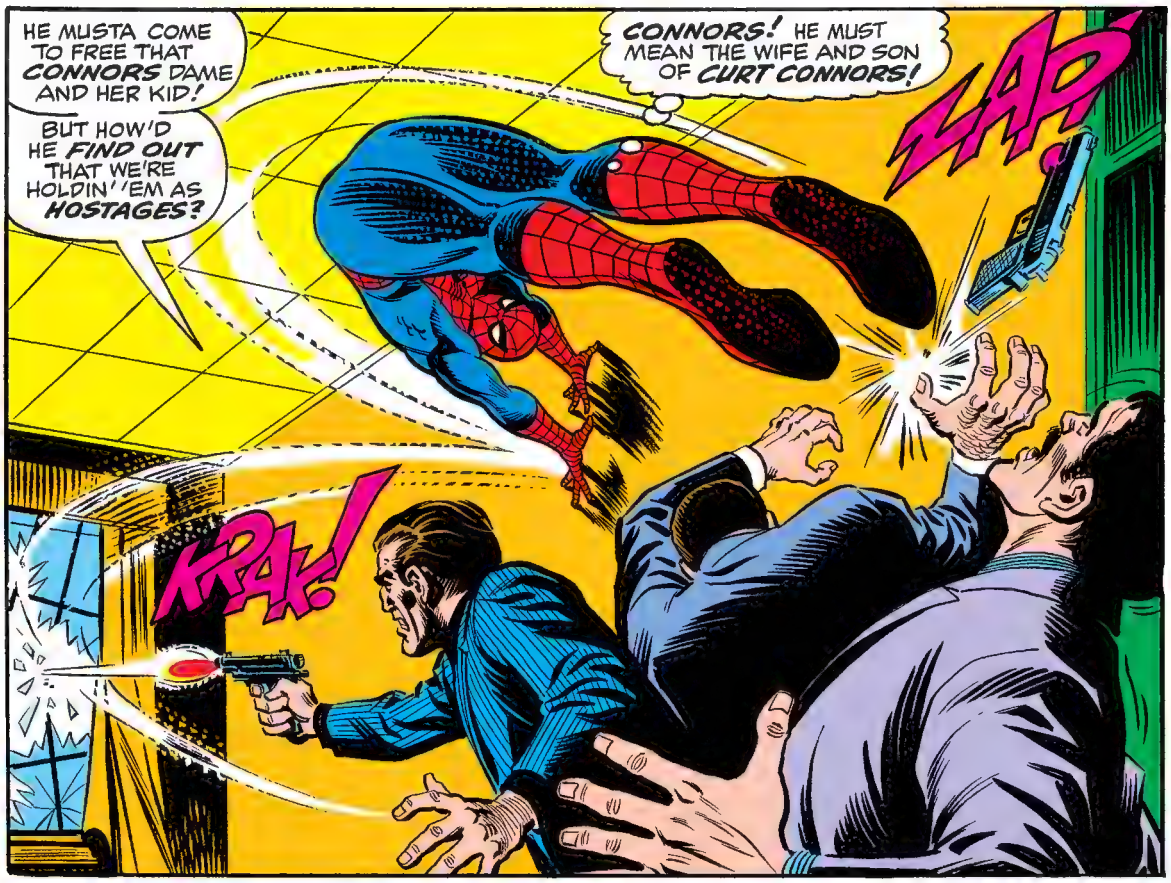

SOMEONE SPRUNG THE KINGPIN'S RIGHT-HAND MAN!
BUT...IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE..!
IT WASN'T FAT STUFF WHO PUT UP THE BAIL...

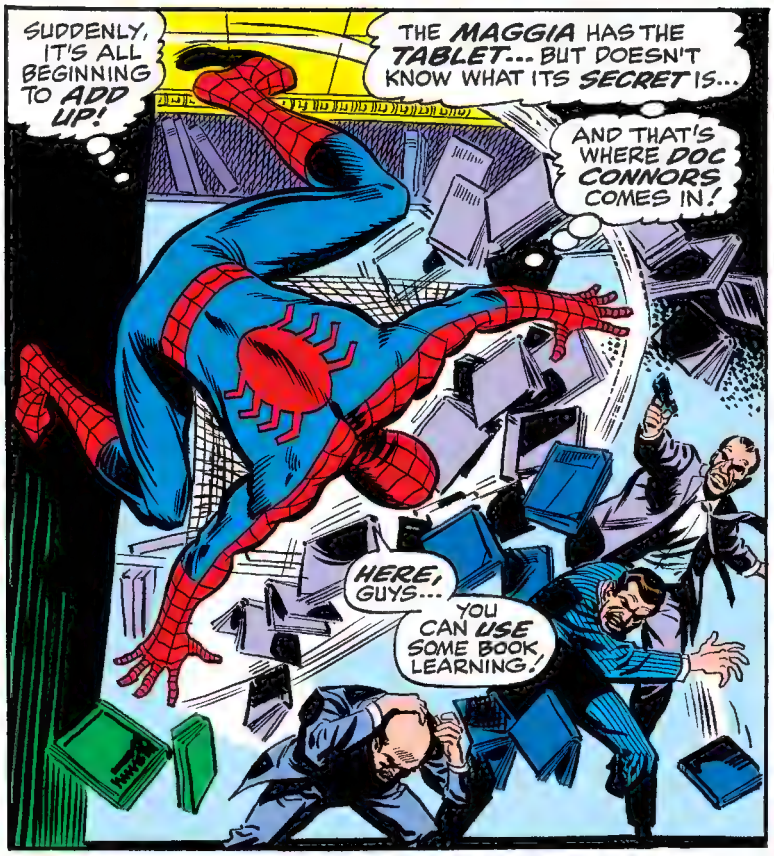
IT WAS CAESAR CICERO ---THE BIG-TIME MAGGIA MOUTHPIECE! BUT...WHY?
KINGPIN'S CRIME LIEUTENANT BAILED OUT BY MAGGIA LAWYER
POLICE POWDER CONNECTION
CAESAR CICERO
LOUIS WILSON
4


I REMEMBER MARKO SAYING IT WAS A MAGGIA TIP THAT LED HIM TO THE TABLET!
AND SO... IF THE SYNDICATE'S MIXED UP IN THIS...
...THEN CAESAR CICERO IS THE LEAD I WANT!
HIS OFFICE IS JUST BELOW!
I'M IN LUCK! HE'S JUST LEAVING!
ANOTHER FEW MINUTES AND I'D HAVE MISSED HIM!
HE CAN'T BE MORE THAN FIVE FEET TALL!
IT FIGURES THEY'D NICK-NAME HIM BIG C...
5.

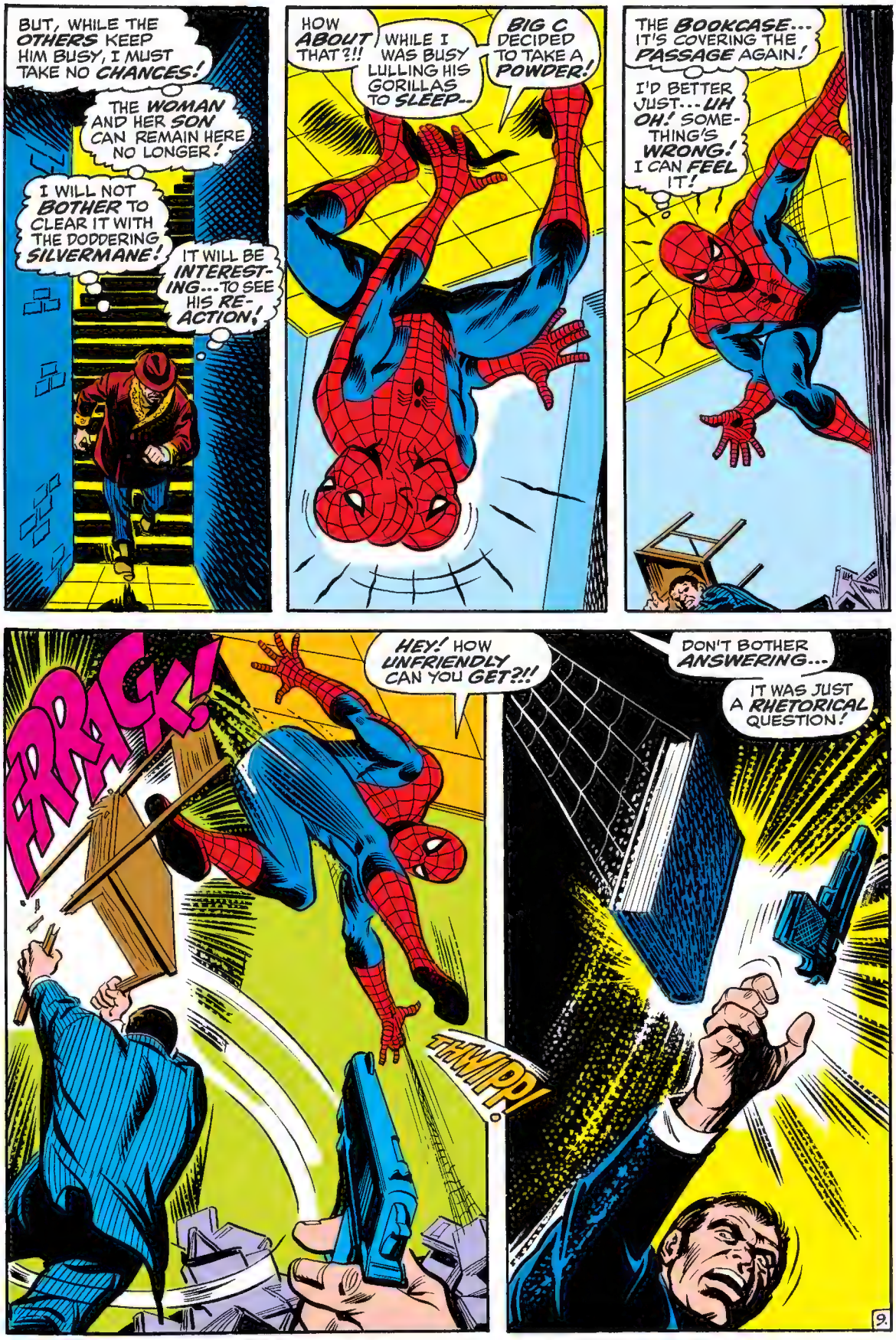

FORGIVE THE FLAMBOYANCY, COUNSELOR...
BUT I'M JUST AN OLD SHOW-MAN AT HEART!
WHA..?? THE SPIDER SIGNAL!!
GLAD YOU NOTICED IT FAST, BIG C!
I NEVER KNOW WHEN THESE DIME STORE BATTERIES'LL GO DEAD!
SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
JUST A LITTLE CONVERSATION, MISTER!
SO HOW ABOUT ANSWERING A FEW SIMPLE QUESTIONS?
WEB-SWINGING AROUND TOWN CAN MAKE A FELLA MIGHTY LONELY!
QUESTIONS?? ABOUT WHAT?
WOULDJA BELIEVE... MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO ...AND A CERTAIN STOLEN TABLET?
FTIK!
NOW WHAT DID YOU WANNA DO THAT FOR?
ALL THAT IT MEANS IS...YOU'LL HAVE TO TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW EVEN FASTER THAN EVER!
NO! I CANNOT BETRAY THE MAGGIA!
WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS A FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE!
6


NOW LOOK... I KNOW THAT MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO WORKS FOR THE MAGGIA...
SO ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TELL ME WHERE TO FIND HIM!
AND YOU HAPPEN TO BE THEIR TOP LEGAL EAGLE!
--AND I'LL SKIP OFF INTO THE NIGHT... WIGGLING MY WEBBING BEHIND ME!
I CAN'T TELL YOU... I CAN'T!
AWW-- TRY!
UH OH! THERE GOES MY SPIDEY SENSE... TINGLING LIKE SIXTY!
CICERO'S GOON SQUAD MUST BE JET PROPELLED!
A BOOKCASE DOOR... SLIDING OPEN!
AND THAT'S NO PEACE PIPE START-ING TO POKE THRU!
OKAY, CAESAR-- I CAN TAKE A HINT!
I KNOW WHEN I'M NOT WANTED!
BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU WERE HAVING A PARTY!
I'D HAVE WORN MY BEADS!
GOOD OL' SPIDER SPEED! WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT YOU?
KRAK!
WE GOT HERE AS SOON AS WE COULD, BIG C!
YOU TAKE COVER, CICERO! WE GOT ENOUGH MUSCLE TO NAIL 'IM!
TALK IS CHEAP, MY FRIEND!
DO IT!
7.

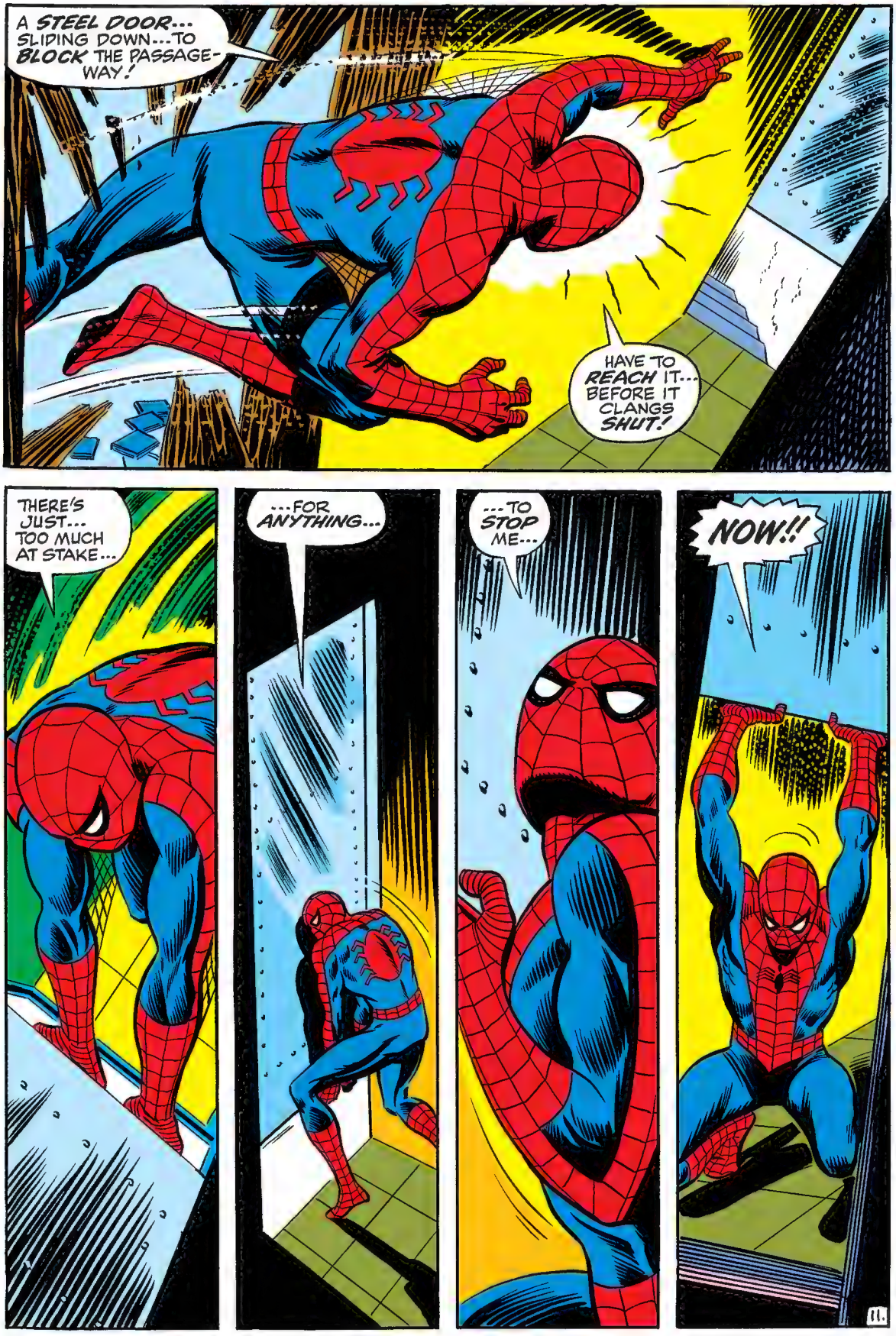

HE MUSTA COME TO FREE THAT CONNORS DAME AND HER KID!
BUT HOW'D HE FIND OUT THAT WE'RE HOLDIN' 'EM AS HOSTAGES?
CONNORS! HE MUST MEAN THE WIFE AND SON OF CURT CONNORS!
ZAP!
KRAK!

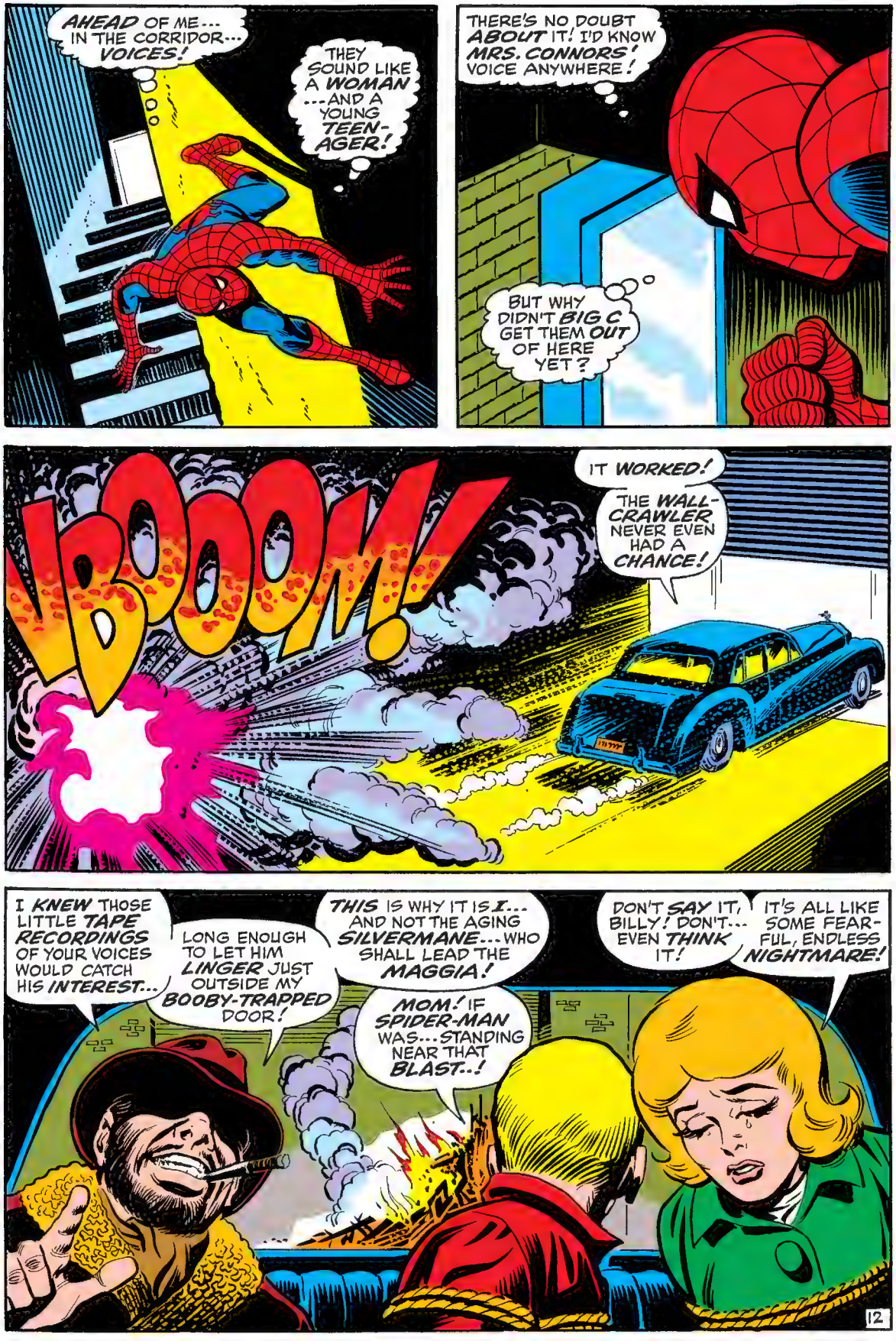

SUDDENLY, IT'S ALL BEGINNING TO ADD UP!
THE MAGGIA HAS THE TABLET... BUT DOESN'T KNOW WHAT ITS SECRET IS...
AND THAT'S WHERE DOC CONNORS COMES IN!
HERE, GUYS...
YOU CAN USE SOME BOOK LEARNING!

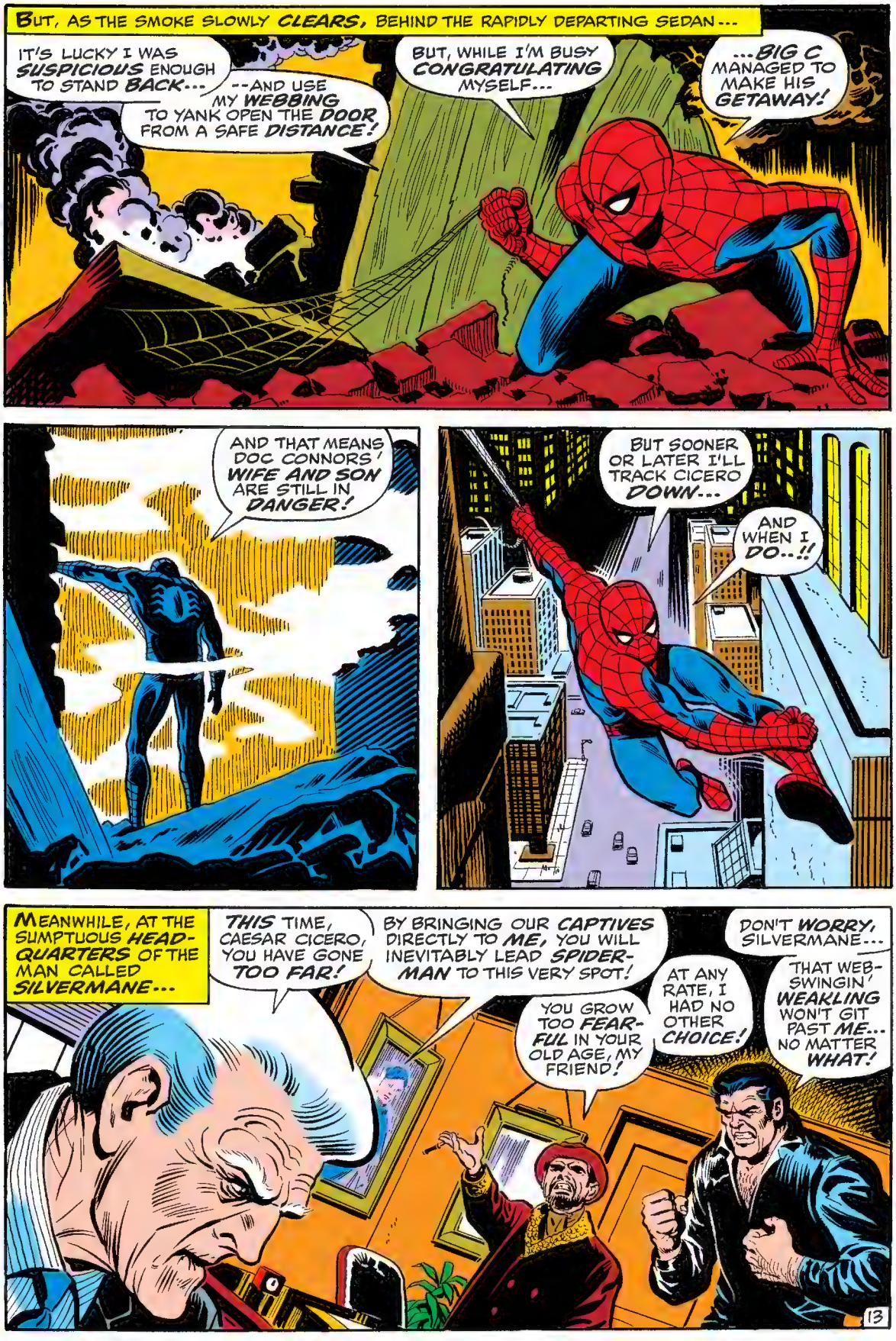
I OUGHT TO THROTTLE THAT PANICKY FOOL FOR BABBLING ABOUT OUR CAPTIVES!
THERE WAS NO REASON FOR SPIDER-MAN TO SUSPECT THEIR PRESENCE ... BUT NOW HE KNOWS!
THAT MEANS THERE MUST BE A SPEED-UP OF THE PLAN!
THE WEB-SPINNER MUST NOT LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

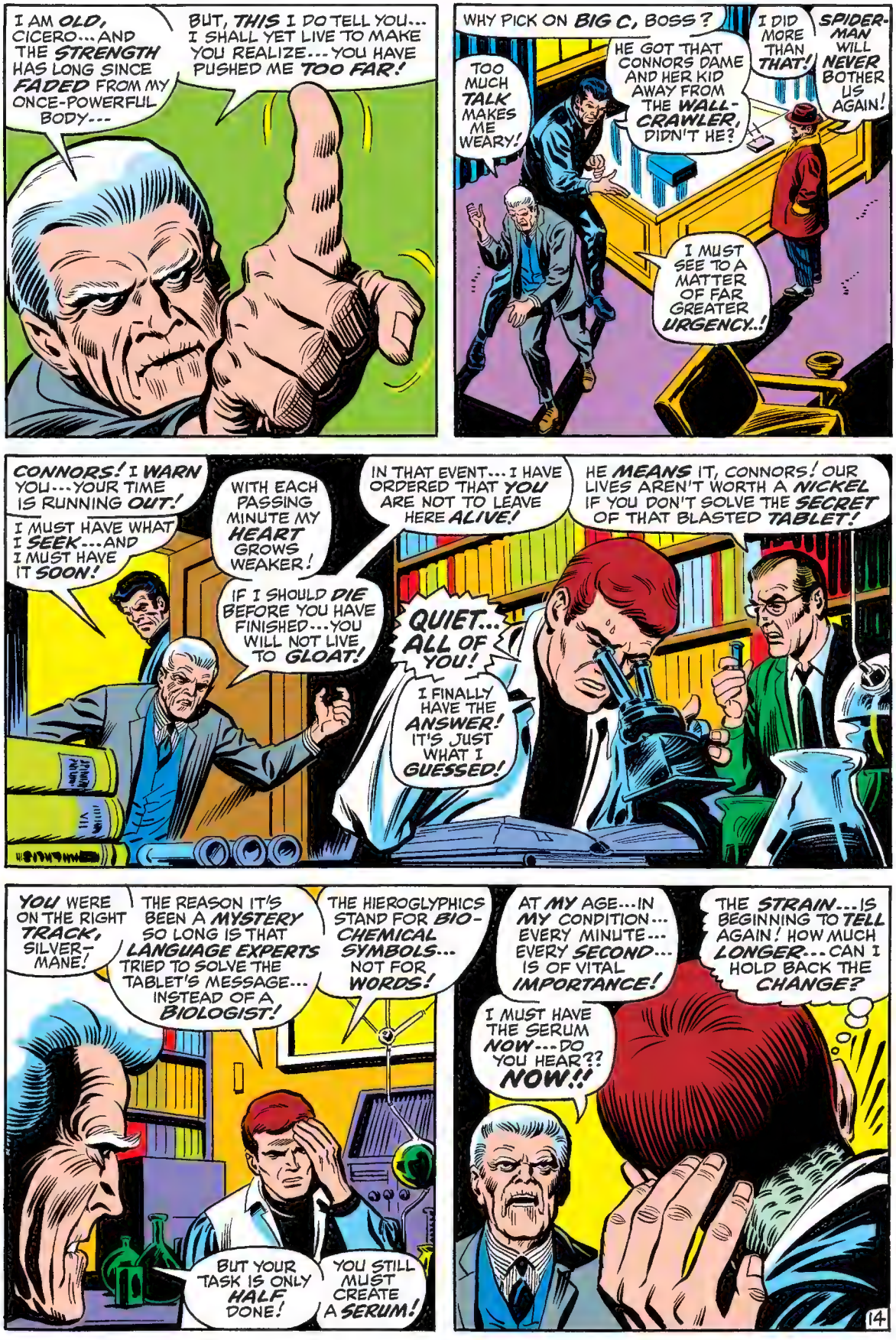

BUT, WHILE THE OTHERS KEEP HIM BUSY, I MUST TAKE NO CHANCES!
THE WOMAN AND HER SON CAN REMAIN HERE NO LONGER!
I WILL NOT BOTHER TO CLEAR IT WITH THE DODDERING SILVERMANE!
IT WILL BE INTERESTING...TO SEE HIS REACTION!
HOW ABOUT THAT?!!
WHILE I WAS BUSY LULLING HIS GORILLAS TO SLEEP--
BIG C DECIDED TO TAKE A POWDER!
THE BOOKCASE... IT'S COVERING THE PASSAGE AGAIN!
I'D BETTER JUST...UH OH! SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN FEEL IT!
FRRACK!
HEY! HOW UNFRIENDLY CAN YOU GET?!!
THWIPP!
DON'T BOTHER ANSWERING...
IT WAS JUST A RHETORICAL QUESTION!
9.

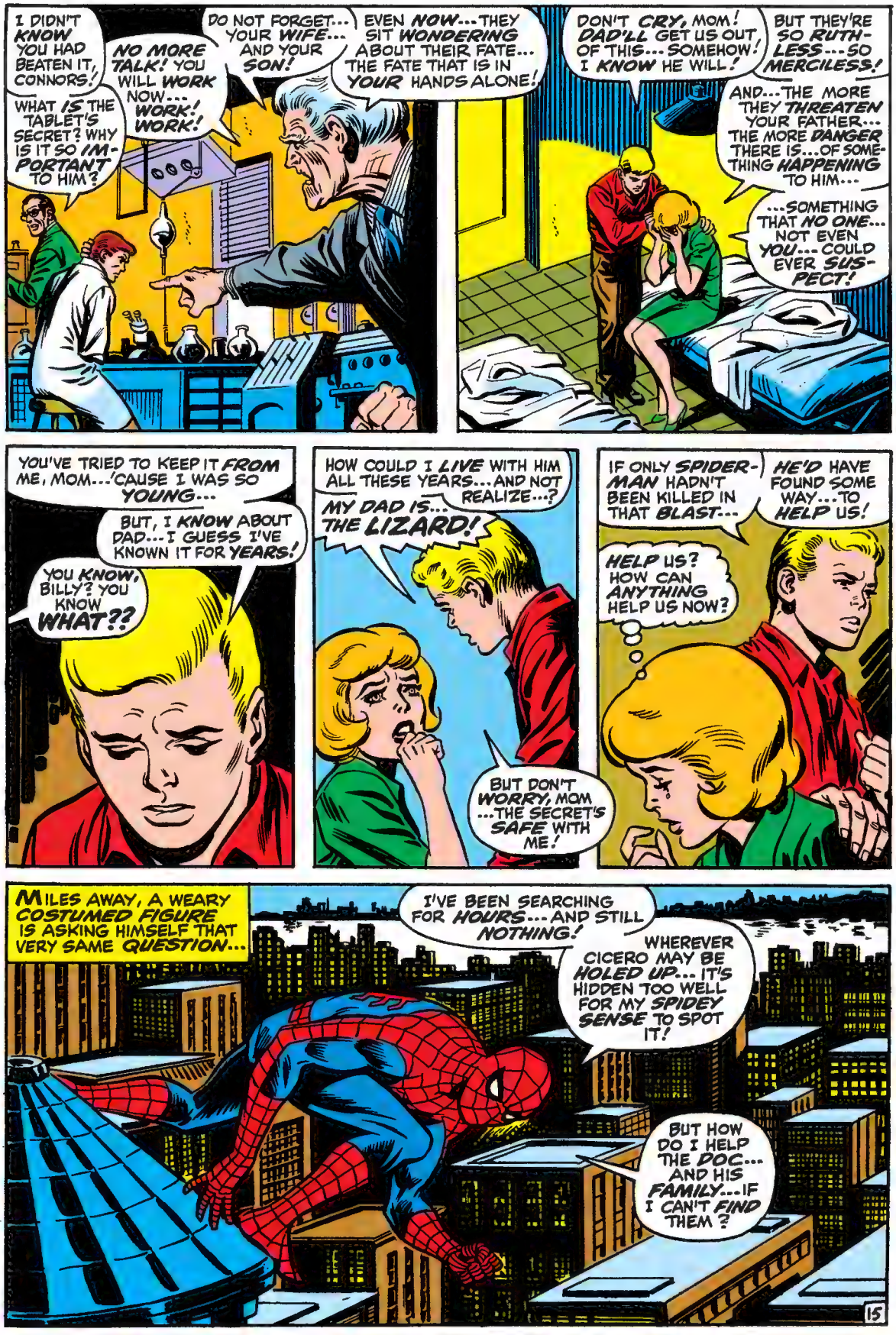
BIG C MUST BE COUNTING ON THESE MAGGIA MUSCLE-MEN TO DELAY ME WHILE HE SKIPS OUT WITH HIS CAPTIVES!
WHICH MEANS I'VE GOTTA HAUL ANCHOR AND REALLY START MOVING!
PTOO!
THE BOOKCASE... THAT WAS THE WAY HE GOT OUT!
AND, WHAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR CAESAR...!
SKRUTCH!
10.


A STEEL DOOR... SLIDING DOWN...TO BLOCK THE PASSAGE-WAY!
HAVE TO REACH IT... BEFORE IT CLANGS SHUT!
THERE'S JUST... TOO MUCH AT STAKE...
...FOR ANYTHING...
...TO STOP ME...
NOW!!

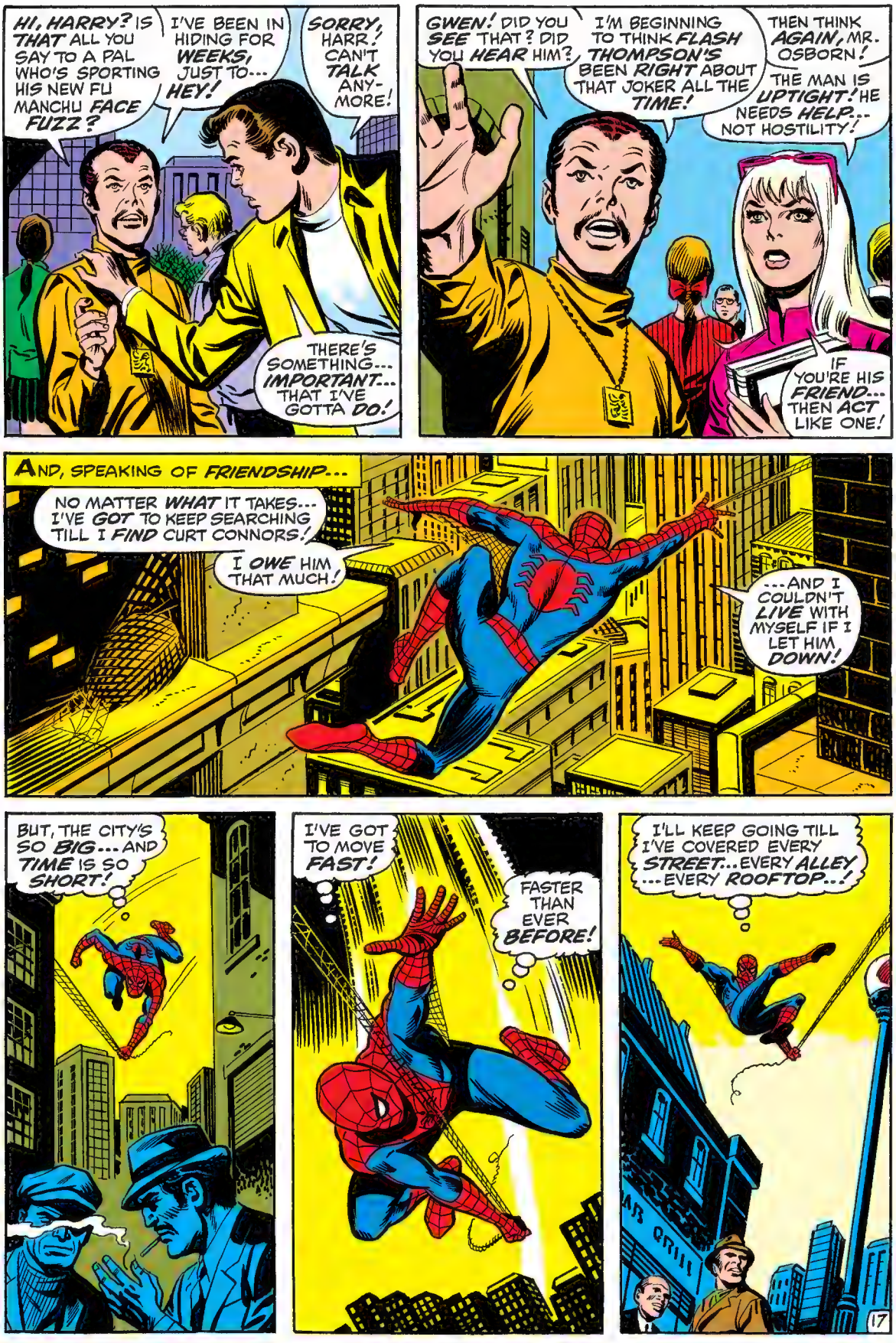

AHEAD OF ME... IN THE CORRIDOR... VOICES!
THEY SOUND LIKE A WOMAN ...AND A YOUNG TEEN-AGER!
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! I'D KNOW MRS. CONNORS' VOICE ANYWHERE!
BUT WHY DIDN'T BIG C GET THEM OUT OF HERE YET?
BOOM!
IT WORKED!
THE WALL-CRAWLER NEVER EVEN HAD A CHANCE!
I KNEW THOSE LITTLE TAPE RECORDINGS OF YOUR VOICES WOULD CATCH HIS INTEREST...
LONG ENOUGH TO LET HIM LINGER JUST OUTSIDE MY BOOBY-TRAPPED DOOR!
THIS IS WHY IT IS I... AND NOT THE AGING SILVERMANE... WHO SHALL LEAD THE MAGGIA!
MOM! IF SPIDER-MAN WAS... STANDING NEAR THAT BLAST..!
DON'T SAY IT, BILLY! DON'T... EVEN THINK IT!
IT'S ALL LIKE SOME FEAR-FUL, ENDLESS NIGHTMARE!

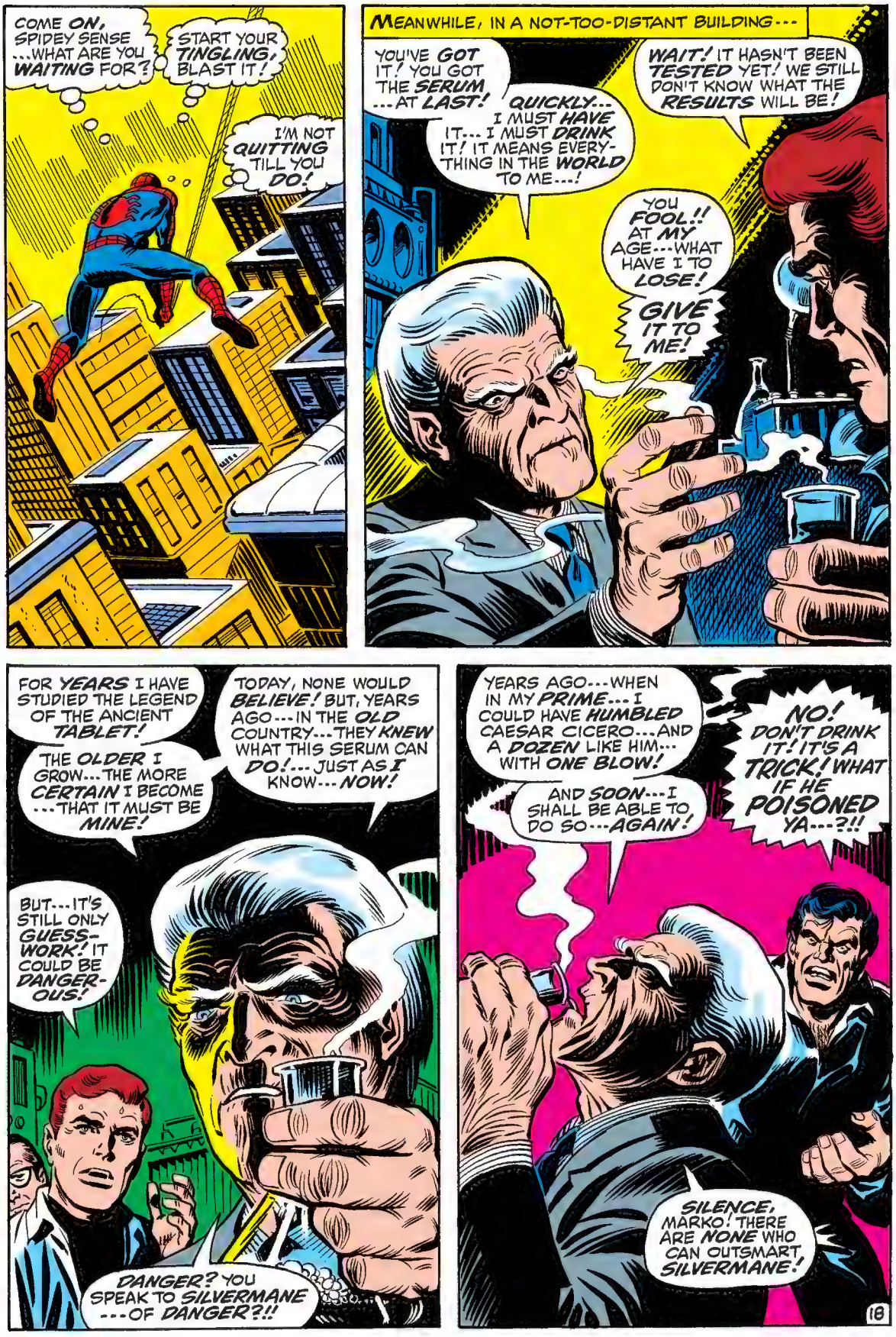

BUT, AS THE SMOKE SLOWLY CLEARS, BEHIND THE RAPIDLY DEPARTING SEDAN---
IT'S LUCKY I WAS SUSPICIOUS ENOUGH TO STAND BACK---
--AND USE MY WEBBING TO YANK OPEN THE DOOR FROM A SAFE DISTANCE!
BUT, WHILE I'M BUSY CONGRATULATING MYSELF---
...BIG C MANAGED TO MAKE HIS GETAWAY!
AND THAT MEANS DOC CONNORS' WIFE AND SON ARE STILL IN DANGER!
BUT SOONER OR LATER I'LL TRACK CICERO DOWN---
AND WHEN I DO..!!
MEANWHILE, AT THE SUMPTUOUS HEADQUARTERS OF THE MAN CALLED SILVERMANE---
THIS TIME, CAESAR CICERO, YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR!
BY BRINGING OUR CAPTIVES DIRECTLY TO ME, YOU WILL INEVITABLY LEAD SPIDER-MAN TO THIS VERY SPOT!
YOU GROW TOO FEARFUL IN YOUR OLD AGE, MY FRIEND!
AT ANY RATE, I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE!
DON'T WORRY, SILVERMANE---
THAT WEB-SWINGIN' WEAKLING WON'T GIT PAST ME... NO MATTER WHAT!


I AM OLD, CICERO... AND THE STRENGTH HAS LONG SINCE FADED FROM MY ONCE-POWERFUL BODY...
BUT, THIS I DO TELL YOU... I SHALL YET LIVE TO MAKE YOU REALIZE... YOU HAVE PUSHED ME TOO FAR!
WHY PICK ON BIG C, BOSS?
TOO MUCH TALK MAKES ME WEARY!
HE GOT THAT CONNORS DAME AND HER KID AWAY FROM THE WALL-CRAWLER, DIDN'T HE?
I DID MORE THAN THAT!
SPIDER-MAN WILL NEVER BOTHER US AGAIN!
I MUST SEE TO A MATTER OF FAR GREATER URGENCY..!
CONNORS! I WARN YOU... YOUR TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
I MUST HAVE WHAT I SEEK... AND I MUST HAVE IT SOON!
WITH EACH PASSING MINUTE MY HEART GROWS WEAKER!
IF I SHOULD DIE BEFORE YOU HAVE FINISHED... YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO GLOAT!
IN THAT EVENT... I HAVE ORDERED THAT YOU ARE NOT TO LEAVE HERE ALIVE!
HE MEANS IT, CONNORS! OUR LIVES AREN'T WORTH A NICKEL IF YOU DON'T SOLVE THE SECRET OF THAT BLASTED TABLET!
QUIET... ALL OF YOU!
I FINALLY HAVE THE ANSWER! IT'S JUST WHAT I GUESSED!
YOU WERE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, SILVER-MANE!
THE REASON IT'S BEEN A MYSTERY SO LONG IS THAT LANGUAGE EXPERTS TRIED TO SOLVE THE TABLET'S MESSAGE... INSTEAD OF A BIOLOGIST!
THE HIEROGLYPHICS STAND FOR BIO-CHEMICAL SYMBOLS... NOT FOR WORDS!
BUT YOUR TASK IS ONLY HALF DONE!
YOU STILL MUST CREATE A SERUM!
AT MY AGE... IN MY CONDITION... EVERY MINUTE... EVERY SECOND... IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE!
I MUST HAVE THE SERUM NOW... DO YOU HEAR?? NOW!!
THE STRAIN... IS BEGINNING TO TELL AGAIN! HOW MUCH LONGER... CAN I HOLD BACK THE CHANGE?
14


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD BEATEN IT, CONNORS!
NO MORE TALK! YOU WILL WORK NOW... WORK! WORK!
DO NOT FORGET... YOUR WIFE... AND YOUR SON!
EVEN NOW... THEY SIT WONDERING ABOUT THEIR FATE... THE FATE THAT IS IN YOUR HANDS ALONE!
WHAT IS THE TABLET'S SECRET? WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO HIM?
DON'T CRY, MOM! DAD'LL GET US OUT OF THIS... SOMEHOW! I KNOW HE WILL!
BUT THEY'RE SO RUTHLESS... SO MERCILESS!
AND... THE MORE THEY THREATEN YOUR FATHER... THE MORE DANGER THERE IS... OF SOMETHING HAPPENING TO HIM...
...SOMETHING THAT NO ONE... NOT EVEN YOU... COULD EVER SUSPECT!
YOU'VE TRIED TO KEEP IT FROM ME, MOM... 'CAUSE I WAS SO YOUNG...
BUT, I KNOW ABOUT DAD... I GUESS I'VE KNOWN IT FOR YEARS!
YOU KNOW, BILLY? YOU KNOW WHAT??
HOW COULD I LIVE WITH HIM ALL THESE YEARS... AND NOT REALIZE...?
MY DAD IS... THE LIZARD!
BUT DON'T WORRY, MOM ...THE SECRET'S SAFE WITH ME!
IF ONLY SPIDER-MAN HADN'T BEEN KILLED IN THAT BLAST...
HE'D HAVE FOUND SOME WAY... TO HELP US!
HELP US? HOW CAN ANYTHING HELP US NOW?
MILES AWAY, A WEARY COSTUMED FIGURE IS ASKING HIMSELF THAT VERY SAME QUESTION...
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR HOURS... AND STILL NOTHING!
WHEREVER CICERO MAY BE HOLED UP... IT'S HIDDEN TOO WELL FOR MY SPIDEY SENSE TO SPOT IT!
BUT HOW DO I HELP THE DOC... AND HIS FAMILY... IF I CAN'T FIND THEM?
15

IT'S ALMOST DAWN NOW! HAVE TO GET SOME SLEEP BEFORE CLASS!
MUSTN'T FORGET TO CALL AUNT MAY IN FLORIDA AND SEE HOW SHE IS!
MY SPIDER-MAN'S WEB-INS HAVE KEPT ME TOO BUSY FOR ANY-THING!
Call Aunt May
HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO PHONE GWENDY AND TRY TO SQUARE THINGS WITH HER!
THIS BUSINESS OF BEING A LONER IS FOR THE BIRDS!
IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMEONE I COULD TALK TO... SOMEONE I COULD CONFIDE IN!
I WISH HARRY WAS BACK FROM HIS DATE---
BUT... I'M TOO SLEEPY ---TO WAIT UP FOR HIM---
THE NEXT MORNING---
IF I DON'T SHOW UP FOR SOME CLASSES THEY'LL FORGET WHO I AM!
BUT, HOW CAN I DO IT... WHEN I SHOULD BE OUT FINDING DOC CONNORS?
HEY! WHAT'S BUGGIN' PARKER?
PARKER'S OKAY, MAN!
IS HE SUDDENLY TOO GOOD FOR US?
HE DON'T HAVETA DO THE RAH RAH BIT TO PROVE HE'S GOT SOUL!
THERE WAS A TIME ...WHEN THE DOC WAS THE ONLY FRIEND I HAD!
AND NOW... WHEN HE NEEDS SPIDER-MAN THE MOST...
HI, ROOM-MATE! I WAS HOPING I'D SEE YOU!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THE NEW OSBORN IMAGE, PETE?
OH... HI, HARRY...
CAN'T FIGHT IT! I HAVE TO START SEARCHING AGAIN!


HI, HARRY? IS THAT ALL YOU SAY TO A PAL WHO'S SPORTING HIS NEW FU MANCHU FACE FUZZ?
I'VE BEEN IN HIDING FOR WEEKS, JUST TO... HEY!
SORRY, HARR! CAN'T TALK ANY-MORE!
THERE'S SOMETHING... IMPORTANT... THAT I'VE GOTTA DO!
GWEN! DID YOU SEE THAT? DID YOU HEAR HIM?
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK FLASH THOMPSON'S BEEN RIGHT ABOUT THAT JOKER ALL THE TIME!
THEN THINK AGAIN, MR. OSBORN!
THE MAN IS UPTIGHT! HE NEEDS HELP... NOT HOSTILITY!
IF YOU'RE HIS FRIEND... THEN ACT LIKE ONE!
AND, SPEAKING OF FRIENDSHIP...
NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES... I'VE GOT TO KEEP SEARCHING TILL I FIND CURT CONNORS!
I OWE HIM THAT MUCH!
...AND I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF IF I LET HIM DOWN!
BUT, THE CITY'S SO BIG... AND TIME IS SO SHORT!
I'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST!
FASTER THAN EVER BEFORE!
I'LL KEEP GOING TILL I'VE COVERED EVERY STREET... EVERY ALLEY ... EVERY ROOFTOP..!
17


COME ON, SPIDEY SENSE ...WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
START YOUR TINGLING, BLAST IT!
I'M NOT QUITTING TILL YOU DO!
MEANWHILE, IN A NOT-TOO-DISTANT BUILDING---
YOU'VE GOT IT! YOU GOT THE SERUM ...AT LAST!
QUICKLY... I MUST HAVE IT... I MUST DRINK IT! IT MEANS EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD TO ME---!
WAIT! IT HASN'T BEEN TESTED YET! WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT THE RESULTS WILL BE!
YOU FOOL!! AT MY AGE---WHAT HAVE I TO LOSE!
GIVE IT TO ME!
FOR YEARS I HAVE STUDIED THE LEGEND OF THE ANCIENT TABLET!
THE OLDER I GROW...THE MORE CERTAIN I BECOME ...THAT IT MUST BE MINE!
TODAY, NONE WOULD BELIEVE! BUT, YEARS AGO---IN THE OLD COUNTRY...THEY KNEW WHAT THIS SERUM CAN DO!--- JUST AS I KNOW--- NOW!
BUT---IT'S STILL ONLY GUESS-WORK! IT COULD BE DANGER-OUS!
DANGER? YOU SPEAK TO SILVERMANE ---OF DANGER?!!
YEARS AGO---WHEN IN MY PRIME--- I COULD HAVE HUMBLED CAESAR CICERO---AND A DOZEN LIKE HIM--- WITH ONE BLOW!
AND SOON---I SHALL BE ABLE TO DO SO---AGAIN!
NO! DON'T DRINK IT! IT'S A TRICK! WHAT IF HE POISONED YA---?!!
SILENCE, MARKO! THERE ARE NONE WHO CAN OUTSMART SILVERMANE!
18

NONE!
ARGHHHH!
MARKO! MARK--- UHHHH---
THUMP!
YOU KILLED 'IM!
YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD SAVE YA, DIDN'T YA?
WELL, NOW YA'LL SEE HOW MUCH GOOD IT'S GONNA DO YA..!
HANDS OFF, MARKO!
YOU DON'T KNOW... WHAT YOU'RE TAMPERING WITH---!
MARKO!
THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED FOR YOUR STRONGARM TACTICS!
NO! IT--IT CAN'T BE!
19.

YOU'RE... STILL ALIVE!
BUT... YOU'RE NOT THE SAME! YOU'RE YOUNGER... STRONGER!!
OF COURSE I AM! THAT WAS THE PURPOSE... THAT WAS THE PLAN!
I GAMBLED EVERY-THING ON BEING RIGHT ABOUT THE TABLET'S SECRET... THE ONLY SECRET THAT COULD SAVE ME...
...THE SECRET OF... THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!
NEXT
SPIDEY SLAMS INTO ACTION AS DEATH STRIKES AGAIN!

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
"DEATH WITHOUT WARNING!"
AUTHOR: STAN (THE MAN) LEE
INNOVATOR: JOHN (RING-A-DING) ROMITA
ILLUSTRATOR: JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY
LETTERER: ARTIE (SWEET LIPS) SIMEK
I'VE GOT TO FIND DOC CONNORS!
I KNOW THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY ARE IN THE DEADLIEST DANGER!
--DANGER WHICH IS SOMEHOW TIED UP WITH THE MAGGIA CRIME LORDS!
AND, AT THE ROOT OF IT ALL IS THE MYSTERIOUS ANCIENT TABLET!
BUT, I'LL FIND HIM YET--AND SOLVE THE MYSTERY--
IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!

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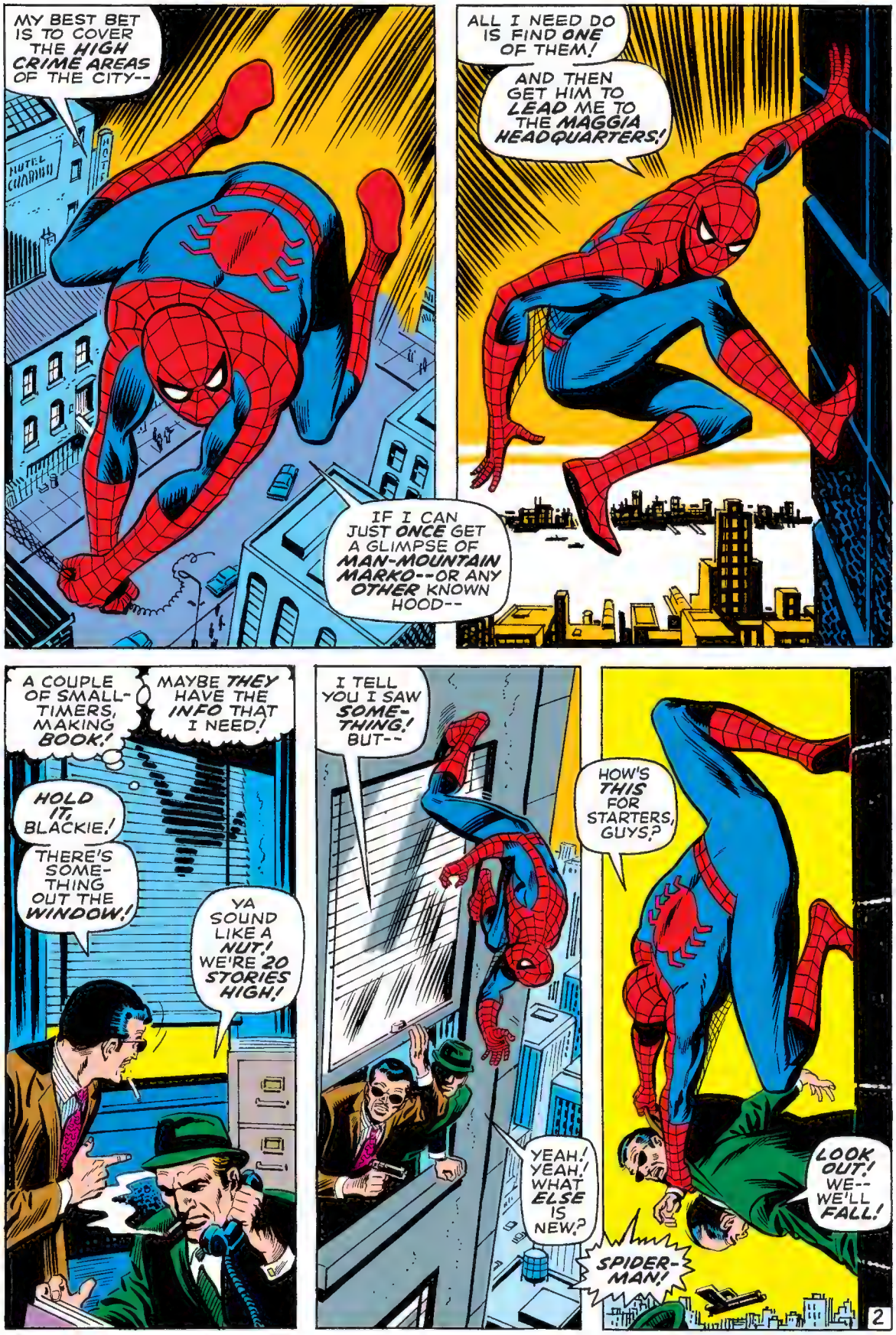

MY BEST BET IS TO COVER THE HIGH CRIME AREAS OF THE CITY--
HOTEL CHANNIN
HOTEL
IF I CAN JUST ONCE GET A GLIMPSE OF MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO--OR ANY OTHER KNOWN HOOD--
ALL I NEED DO IS FIND ONE OF THEM!
AND THEN GET HIM TO LEAD ME TO THE MAGGIA HEADQUARTERS!
A COUPLE OF SMALL-TIMERS, MAKING BOOK!
MAYBE THEY HAVE THE INFO THAT I NEED!
HOLD IT, BLACKIE!
THERE'S SOME-THING OUT THE WINDOW!
YA SOUND LIKE A NUT! WE'RE 20 STORIES HIGH!
I TELL YOU I SAW SOME-THING! BUT--
YEAH! YEAH! WHAT ELSE IS NEW?
HOW'S THIS FOR STARTERS, GUYS?
LOOK OUT! WE-- WE'LL FALL!
SPIDER-MAN!
2

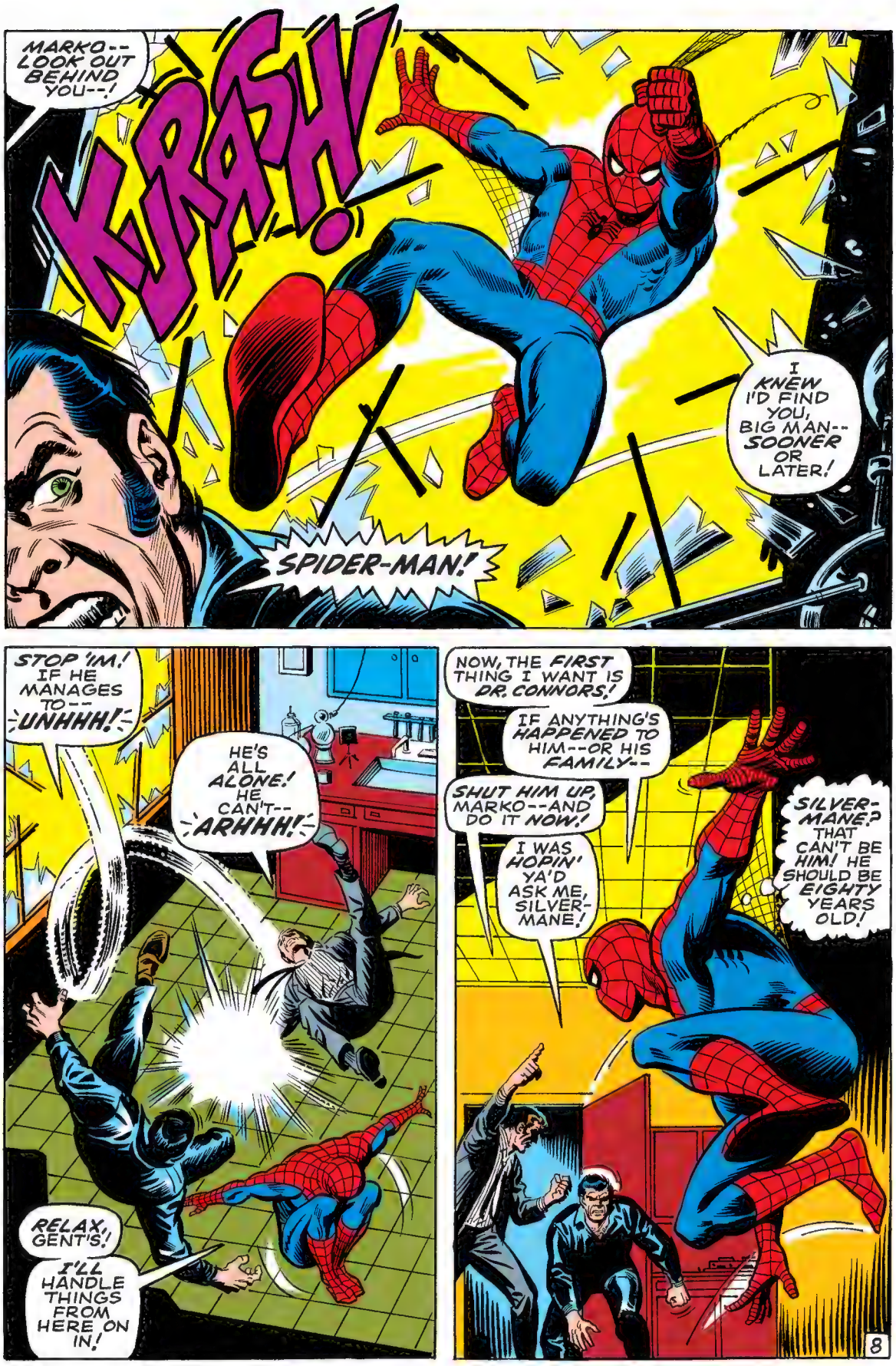
TALK FAST, GROUP-- BEFORE MY ARMS GET TIRED!
I'M LOOKING FOR THE MAGGIA HQ-- AND I KNOW YOU WANT TO HELP ME!
WE'LL TELL YOU ANYTHING-- ANYTHING!
JUST GET US BACK INSIDE!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO KNOW "ANYTHING"!
--JUST ONE ITTY BITTY ADDRESS!
IT'S-- RIGHT ACROSS TOWN-- THE GALBY BUILD-ING!
THANKS, KIDDIES!
WHO SAYS NEW YORKERS ARE TOO SELFISH TO HELP A LONESOME STRANGER?
NOW FOR DOC CONNORS --IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE!
I'VE GOT TO LEARN WHY THE MAGGIA CAPTURED HIM--
AND HOW THE STOLEN TABLET FIGURES IN TO ALL--
UH OH!
MY SPIDEY SENSE IS STARTING TO TINGLE!
THAT MEANS IT'S TIME FOR THE OL' WEB-SLINGER TO GO INTO ACTION!
3

AND, SPEAKING OF ACTION--LET'S JUMP THE GUN A BIT AND REACH SPIDEY'S GOAL BEFORE HIM--
I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T KILL SILVERMANE!
LET GO OF ME, MARKO-- WHILE YOU STILL CAN!
SILVERMANE--NO! IT--IT CAN'T BE YOU! IT CAN'T!
YOU'RE--AN OLD MAN-- WITH ONE FOOT--IN THE GRAVE!
USE YOUR HEAD, YOU OVERSIZED SIMPLETON!
THIS WAS THE PRICELESS SECRET OF THE ANCIENT TABLET--!
THE SECRET COUNTLESS MEN HAD LIVED-- AND DIED FOR--
THE SECRET OF-- ETERNAL YOUTH!
WHAT'RE YA HANDIN' ME, MISTER?
NOBODY CAN GIT 40 YEARS YOUNGER-- JUST ON ACCOUNTA SOME NUTTY FORMULA!
YER IN CAHOOTS WITH CONNORS, THAT'S WHAT!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, YOU BLUNDERING OAF!
STUDY MY FACE --IS IT NOT THE SAME-- ONLY YOUNGER?
NOW TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO SILVERMANE --OR I'LL TAKE YA APART!
IS MY VOICE NOT THE VOICE THAT HAS EVER COMMANDED YOU?
I AM STILL SILVERMANE! I AM STILL YOUR LEADER!
BUT NOW--I POSSESS BOTH THE YOUTH-- AND THE STRENGTH --TO BE THE GREATEST MAGGIA CHIEFTAIN OF ALL!
4

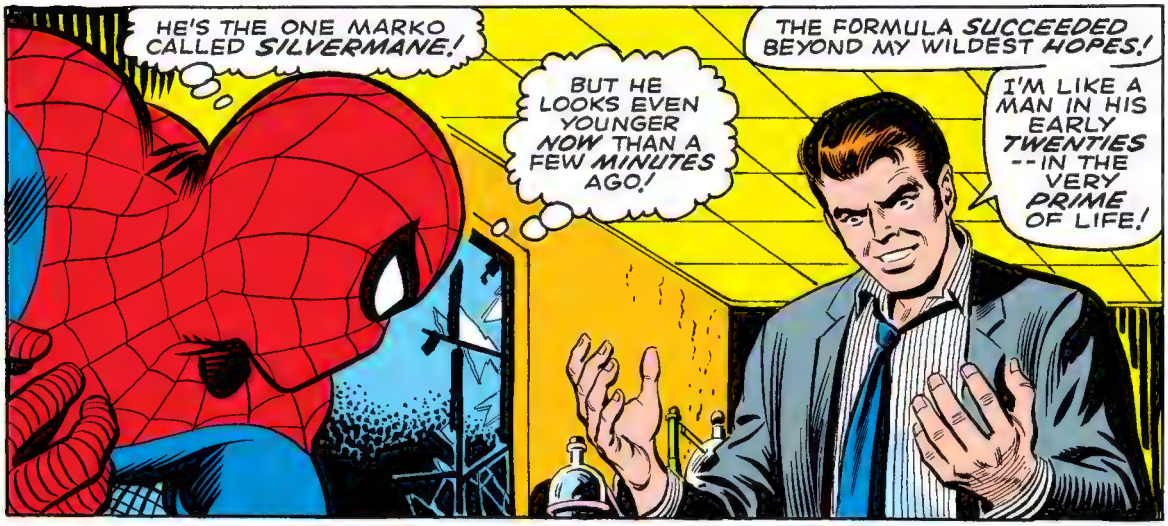
BUT, WHILE WE STAND HERE ARGUING-- WHAT OF DR. CONNORS?
HE ALONE KNOWS THE SECRET OF THE TABLET'S FORMULA!
HE MUST NOT ESCAPE US!
HOW CAN A ONE-ARMED PUNK LIKE HIM GIT OUTTA THIS JOINT?
HE AINT GOT A CHANCE!
ANYWAY, --WE'RE HOLDIN' HIS WIFE AND KID HOSTAGE!
AND, EVEN AS MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO SPEAKS...IN AN ADJOINING ROOM--
I WARN YOU, MR. CICERO-- IF ANY HARM COMES TO MY HUSBAND--
SHUDDUP, BOTH OF YOU!
I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT CAUSED ALL THAT NOISE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL!
EASY, MOM --WE CAN'T THREATEN THEM!
SILVERMANE IS OLD--IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM--
THE COMMAND MUST PASS TO ME!
ALLOW NO ONE TO ENTER OR LEAVE THAT ROOM--
YA CAN COUNT ON ME, BIG C!
OR YOU YOU WILL ANSWER TO CAESAR CICERO!
EVERY DAY THAT PASSES BRINGS THE AGING SILVERMANE CLOSER TO DEATH!
ALL I NEED DO IS PLAY MY CARDS RIGHT--AND WAIT HIM OUT--
THEN, ONE DAY, CAESAR SHALL LEAD-- AS I WAS BORN TO DO!
COME IN, CAESAR-- COME IN! I HAVE BEEN EAGERLY AWAITING YOU!
NO! IT CANNOT BE! IT IS-- MADNESS!
JUST AS YOU HAVE BEEN SO PATIENTLY AWAITING MY CERTAIN DEMISE!
HE GOT YOUNGER, BIG C-- ON ACCOUNTA THE TABLET!
AND NOW, TREACHEROUS ONE--WE HAVE MANY SCORES TO SETTLE!
5

MARKO! IT'S A TRICK! HE'S NOT SILVERMANE--HE CAN'T BE!
YEAH--SURE! THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BIG C! HE CAN'T FOOL US!
HE MUST BE IN LEAGUE WITH THE POLICE! THEY'RE TRYING TO TRAP US--TO MAKE US TIP OUR HAND!
IT WON'T WORK, CAESAR!
YOU CANNOT TURN US AGAINST EACH OTHER--TO SERVE YOUR OWN AMBITIOUS ENDS!
SILENCE HIM, MARKO--BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED--OR HOW--
DON'T WORRY, BIG C--I'LL TAKE CARE OF 'IM!
BUT IF I CAN GET THEM BOTH TO CRUSH EACH OTHER--THEN NO ONE WILL STAND IN MY WAY!
YOU BRAINLESS, MUSCLE-BOUND BUNGLER--
NOT EVEN YOUR STRENGTH WILL HELP YOU NOW!
I AM THE SILVERMANE THAT WAS--
THE SILVERMANE WHO YEARS AGO FOUGHT HIS WAY TO THE TOP OF THE MAGGIA--OVER MANY SUCH AS YOU!
DESPITE YOUR BESTIAL POWER--YOU HAVE NOT THE SPEED--NOR THE SKILL--TO HANDLE THE LIKES OF SILVERMANE!
THAT IS WHY I AM THE LEADER--WHY I SHALL EVER BE THE LEADER!
NOW THAT THE SECRET OF THE TABLET IS MINE--
I SHALL STAY YOUNG AND STRONG--FOREVER!

THE WAY YA TALK--THE WAY YA USE YER DUKES--JUST LIKE THE STORIES I USEDTA HEAR--OF HOW NOBODY COULD EVER BEAT SILVERMANE!
THE STORIES WERE TRUE! IT WAS I WHO HELPED ORGANIZE THE MAGGIA IN THIS CITY--
I, WHOSE RUTHLESS-NESS AND MIGHT HELPED CREATE THE GREATEST CRIME CARTEL OF ALL!
AND NOW THAT I HAVE REGAINED MY YOUTH--
I WILL DESTROY ANY WHO OPPOSE ME--AS I LEAD THE MAGGIA IN THE MOST DARING CRIMES OF ALL!
NOW SPEAK, MARKO--LET ME HEAR YOU SWEAR THAT YOU WILL OBEY ME BLINDLY!
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY THAT YOU BELIEVE --THAT YOU KNOW, BEYOND ALL QUESTION OR DOUBT--
--THAT I, AND I ALONE-- AM SILVERMANE!
YEAH! YEAH! YOU ARE-- YOU GOTTA BE SILVERMANE!
I CAN SEE IT NOW-- RIGHT THERE --IN FRONT OF MY EYES-- YOU DID GIT YOUNGER--
IT WUZ THE STUFF YOU DRANK--FROM THE FORMULA ON THE TABLET--THAT'S WHAT DID IT!
IN FACT--IT'S STILL DOIN' IT!! YOU'RE STILL GETTIN' YOUNGER --RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES!
YER HAIR-- IT AINT GREY NO MORE! YOU-- YOU'RE EVEN YOUNGER-- THAN ME!
IT--IT'S LIKE MAGIC! IT AINT POSSIBLE-- BUT I SEE IT-- I SEE IT HAPPENIN'--
JUST LIKE AS IF A CLOCK-- IS MOVIN' BACKWARDS --JUST FOR YOU!
7


MARKO--LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU--!
KRASH!
I KNEW I'D FIND YOU, BIG MAN--SOONER OR LATER!
SPIDER-MAN!
STOP 'IM! IF HE MANAGES TO--
-UNHHH!-
HE'S ALL ALONE! HE CAN'T--
-ARHHH!-
RELAX, GENT'S! I'LL HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE ON IN!
NOW, THE FIRST THING I WANT IS DR. CONNORS!
IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM--OR HIS FAMILY--
SHUT HIM UP, MARKO--AND DO IT NOW!
I WAS HOPIN' YA'D ASK ME, SILVER-MANE!
SILVER-MANE? THAT CAN'T BE HIM! HE SHOULD BE EIGHTY YEARS OLD!
8

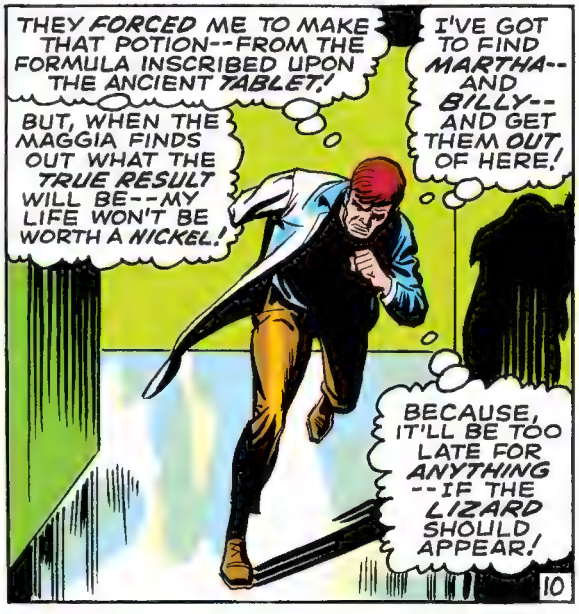
I WENT EASY ON YOU LAST TIME, MARKO--
--'CAUSE I HAD OTHER THINGS ON MY MIND--
AND THERE WAS A LADY PRESENT!
FTOOM!
BUT JUST IN CASE YOU THINK YOU'RE REALLY A MATCH FOR ME--
I'D BETTER CLUE YOU IN TO THE FACTS OF LIFE --BUT FAST!
YER LIFTIN' ME--WITH ONE HAND-- LIKE I DON'T EVEN WEIGH NOTHIN'!
I'VE GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, PAL--
FOR A DUMMY, YOU CATCH ON QUICK!
AND NOW, SONNY BOY, I WANT SOME ANSWERS!
BT-AMM!
NO! IT CAN'T BE! BUT-- IT IS--!
I'M GETTING YOUNGER STILL!!
HUH? WHAT'S THAT?
9


HE'S THE ONE MARKO CALLED SILVERMANE!
BUT HE LOOKS EVEN YOUNGER NOW THAN A FEW MINUTES AGO!
THE FORMULA SUCCEEDED BEYOND MY WILDEST HOPES!
I'M LIKE A MAN IN HIS EARLY TWENTIES --IN THE VERY PRIME OF LIFE!

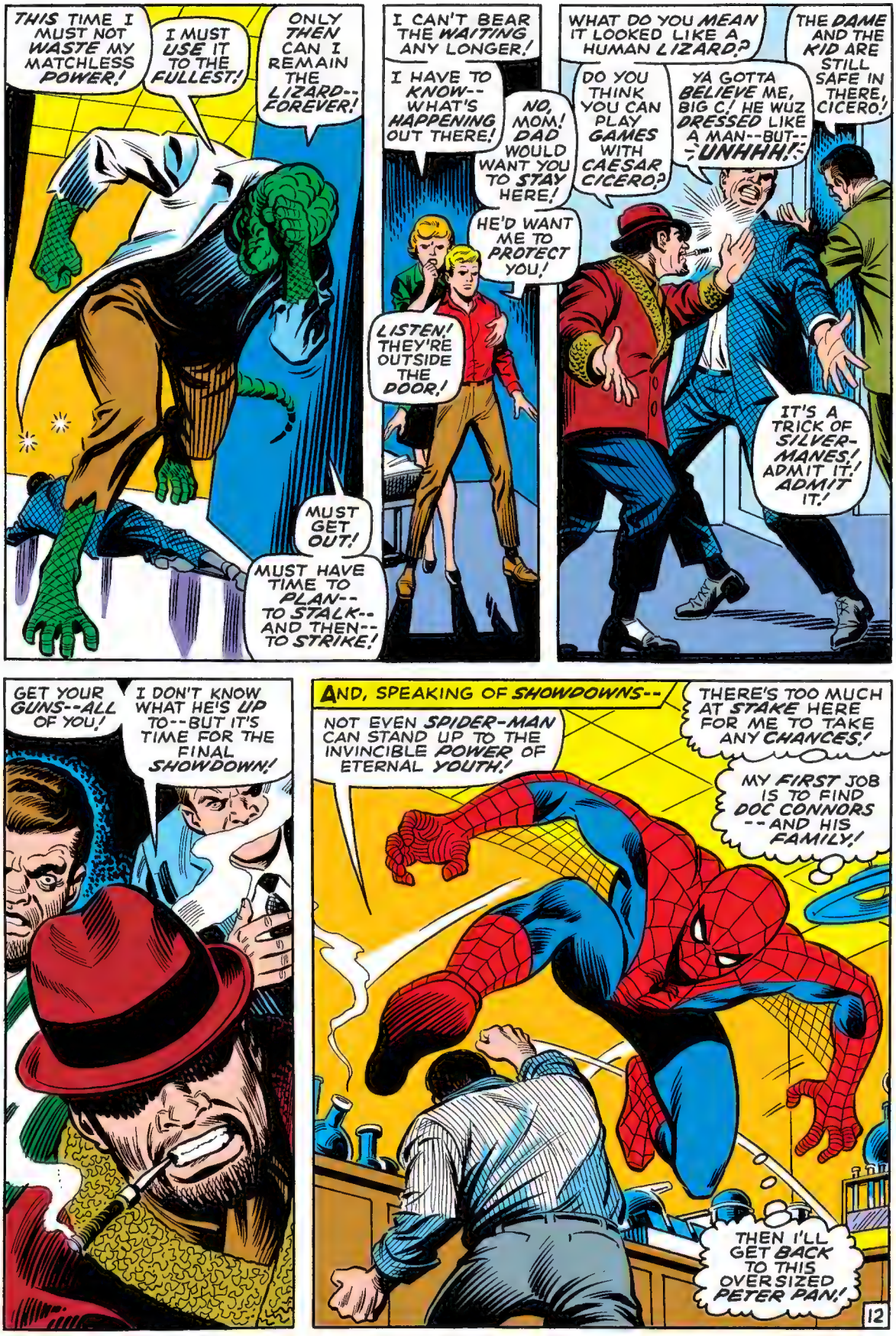
AND, THE YOUNGER I GET--THE HEALTHIER I GET--THE MORE ALIVE--THE MORE POWERFUL I BECOME!
THERE IS NOTHING I CANNOT DO--NO ONE I CANNOT DEFEAT!

NOT EVEN SPIDER-MAN CAN HOPE TO OPPOSE ONE WHO HAS DRUNK FROM THE WATERS OF THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!
HE--REALLY MEANS IT!

MEANWHILE--
I DON'T KNOW WHERE SPIDER-MAN CAME FROM--BUT THIS IS MY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
ALL RIGHT, WALL-CRAWLER --LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF!


THEY FORCED ME TO MAKE THAT POTION--FROM THE FORMULA INSCRIBED UPON THE ANCIENT TABLET!
BUT, WHEN THE MAGGIA FINDS OUT WHAT THE TRUE RESULT WILL BE--MY LIFE WON'T BE WORTH A NICKEL!
I'VE GOT TO FIND MARTHA--AND BILLY--AND GET THEM OUT OF HERE!
BECAUSE, IT'LL BE TOO LATE FOR ANYTHING --IF THE LIZARD SHOULD APPEAR!

IF THE CHANGE OCCURS--
NO! I MUSTN'T EVEN THINK OF IT--NOT WITH MY WIFE AND SON SO NEAR!
THE LIZARD HAS NO MEMORY--NO FEELINGS OF LOVE--NOT EVEN FOR THEM!
THE SPASMS --THEY'RE START-ING! I-I CAN'T STOP THEM!
MY MISSING ARM --BEGINNING TO THROB--TO PAIN ME!
IT'S GROWING BACK-- BACK!
I HAVE TO TURN--RUN-- GET AWAY FROM HERE-- AWAY FROM MY FAMILY--WHILE --I STILL CAN!
I'LL--FIND A ROOM--AND LOCK MYSELF INSIDE--AND THEN--AND THEN--
HAH! THEY COULDN'T STOP ME! COULDN'T KEEP ME HUMAN ANY LONGER! I WAS TOO STRONG FOR THEM!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE? WHY AM I CLOSED IN--- BY WALLS--DOORS--?
THIS IS NO FIT PLACE FOR ME! I NEED ROOM --SPACE-- FREEDOM!
I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE OUT HERE!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MISTER-- TILL I SEE WHO YOU ARE!
ZWAK!
I AM THE LIZARD!
THAT'S ALL YOU'LL EVER NEED TO KNOW!
11


THIS TIME I MUST NOT WASTE MY MATCHLESS POWER!
I MUST USE IT TO THE FULLEST!
ONLY THEN CAN I REMAIN THE LIZARD--FOREVER!
MUST GET OUT!
MUST HAVE TIME TO PLAN--TO STALK--AND THEN--TO STRIKE!
I CAN'T BEAR THE WAITING ANY LONGER!
I HAVE TO KNOW--WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE!
NO, MOM! DAD WOULD WANT YOU TO STAY HERE!
HE'D WANT ME TO PROTECT YOU!
LISTEN! THEY'RE OUTSIDE THE DOOR!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN IT LOOKED LIKE A HUMAN LIZARD?
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN PLAY GAMES WITH CAESAR CICERO?
YA GOTTA BELIEVE ME, BIG C.! HE WUZ DRESSED LIKE A MAN--BUT--
-UNHHH!-
THE DAME AND THE KID ARE STILL SAFE IN THERE, CICERO!
IT'S A TRICK OF SILVER-MANES! ADMIT IT! ADMIT IT!
GET YOUR GUNS--ALL OF YOU!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S UP TO--BUT IT'S TIME FOR THE FINAL SHOWDOWN!
AND, SPEAKING OF SHOWDOWNS--
NOT EVEN SPIDER-MAN CAN STAND UP TO THE INVINCIBLE POWER OF ETERNAL YOUTH!
THERE'S TOO MUCH AT STAKE HERE FOR ME TO TAKE ANY CHANCES!
MY FIRST JOB IS TO FIND DOC CONNORS --AND HIS FAMILY!
THEN I'LL GET BACK TO THIS OVERSIZED PETER PAN!
12

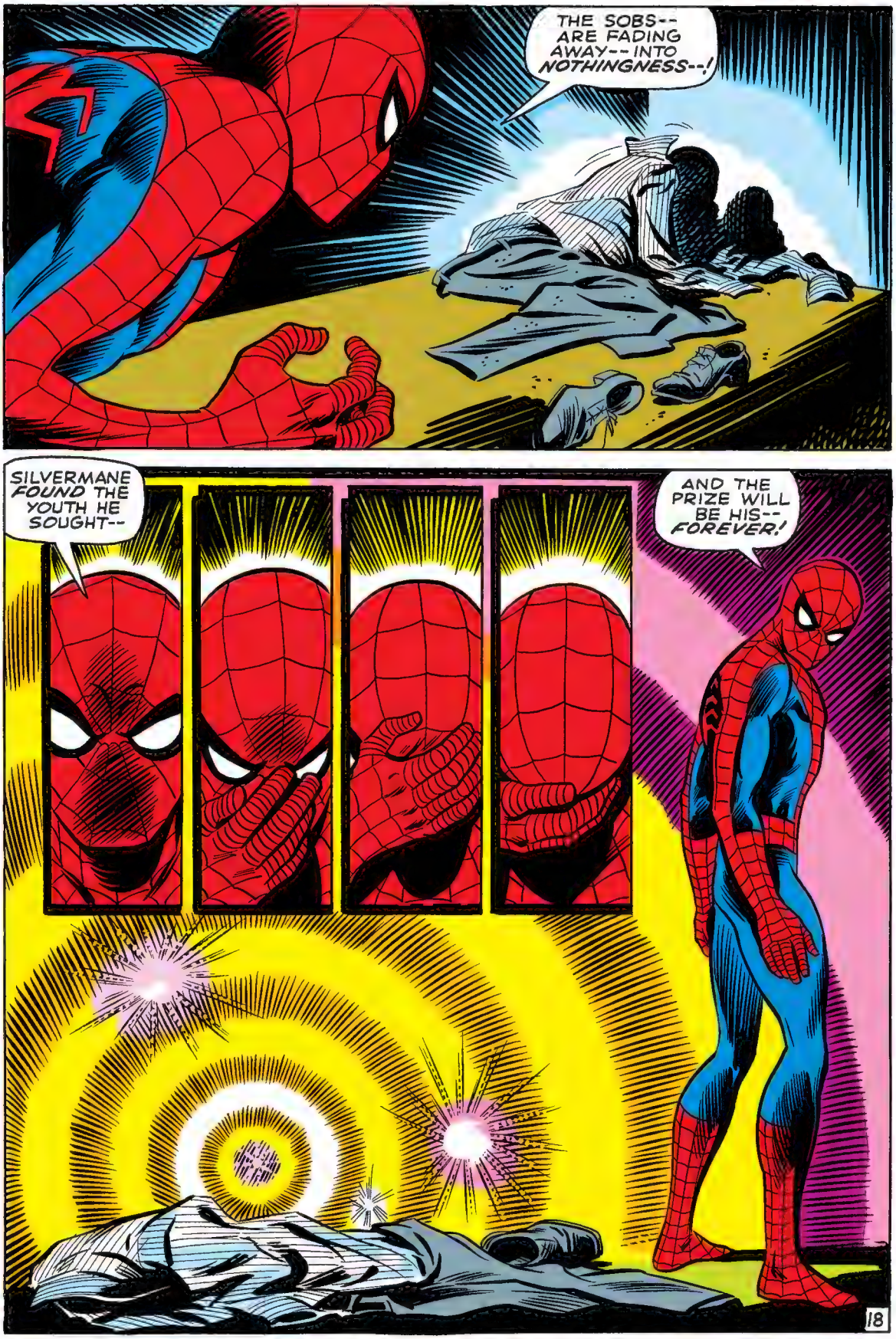
NO! YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE ME! NOBODY WILL EVER ESCAPE ME AGAIN!
ALL THE GANGLAND KILLINGS I HAVE ORDERED IN THE PAST WILL BE AS NOTHING TO THE REIGN OF TERROR THAT IS YET TO COME!
A BEAKER OF CHEMICAL ACID!
IF I HADN'T AVERTED MY FACE IN TIME--!
SPKLANG!
I AM SILVERMANE! I ROSE TO THE TOP OVER THE SHATTERED REMAINS OF THOSE I HAD TO CRUSH IN MY CLIMB TO POWER!
AND NOW, I AM STRONGER, WISER, YOUNGER THAN EVER!
NOW, ALL WHO LIVE SHALL LEARN HOW MERCILESS THE MAGGIA CAN BE!
COULD BE JUST MY IMAGINATION--
BUT I COULD SWEAR HIS VOICE IS GETTING SHRILLER-- YOUNGER-- WITH EVERY WORD!
THIS IS HOW I BATTLED ONCE BEFORE--WHEN I WAS IN MY PRIME!
NO ONE WAS SAFE FROM THE SAVAGERY OF SILVERMANE!
WHY DON'T YOU FALL? WHY DON'T YOU COLLAPSE IN A PAROXYSM OF FEAR?
MAYBE IT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE WEAKER THAN YOU THINK!
NO! NO! I'M THE DEADLY SILVERMANE!
I'M THE STRONGEST ONE OF ALL!

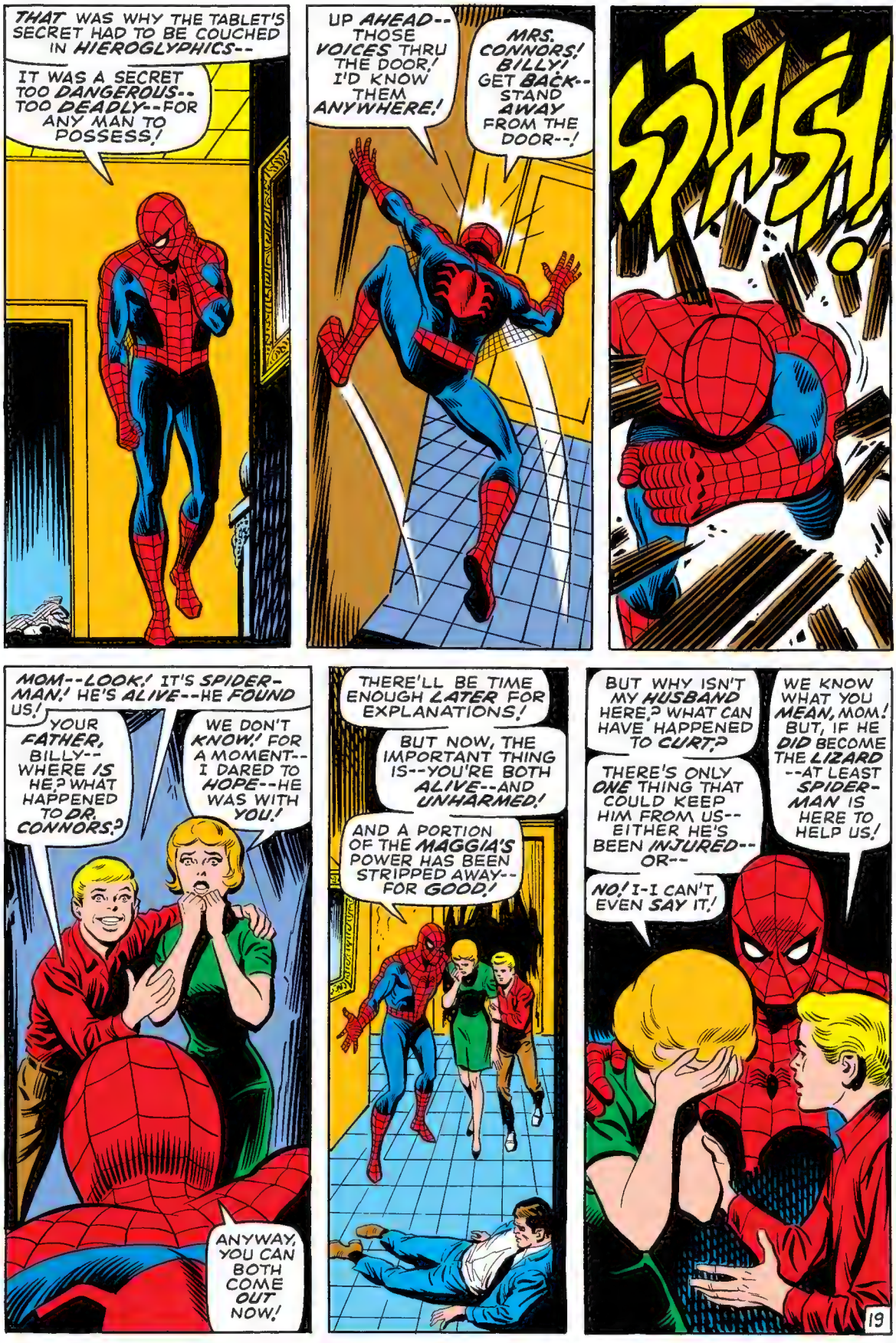
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! HE IS GETTING YOUNGER-- BY THE SECOND!
EACH BLOW HAS LESS WEIGHT-- LESS POWER BEHIND IT!
NOW STAY THERE, MISTER! I'VE STILL GOT A JOB TO DO!
UH OH! I'M STARTING TO TINGLE AGAIN! THERE'S NEW DANGER NEAR!
WHEN I GIVE THE WORD--YOU ALL RUSH INSIDE!
AND SHOOT ANYTHING THAT MOVES!
GET READY-- HERE WE GO--!
NOW!
IT'S SPIDER-MAN! BUT-- HE WUZ EXPECTIN' US!
HE'S HIGH-TAILIN' IT AWAY!
YOU SURE HAVE A WAY OF MAKING A FELLA FEEL UNWANTED!
KRAK!
STOP HIM! HE MUST NOT LEAVE THIS PLACE ALIVE!
FTHNG!

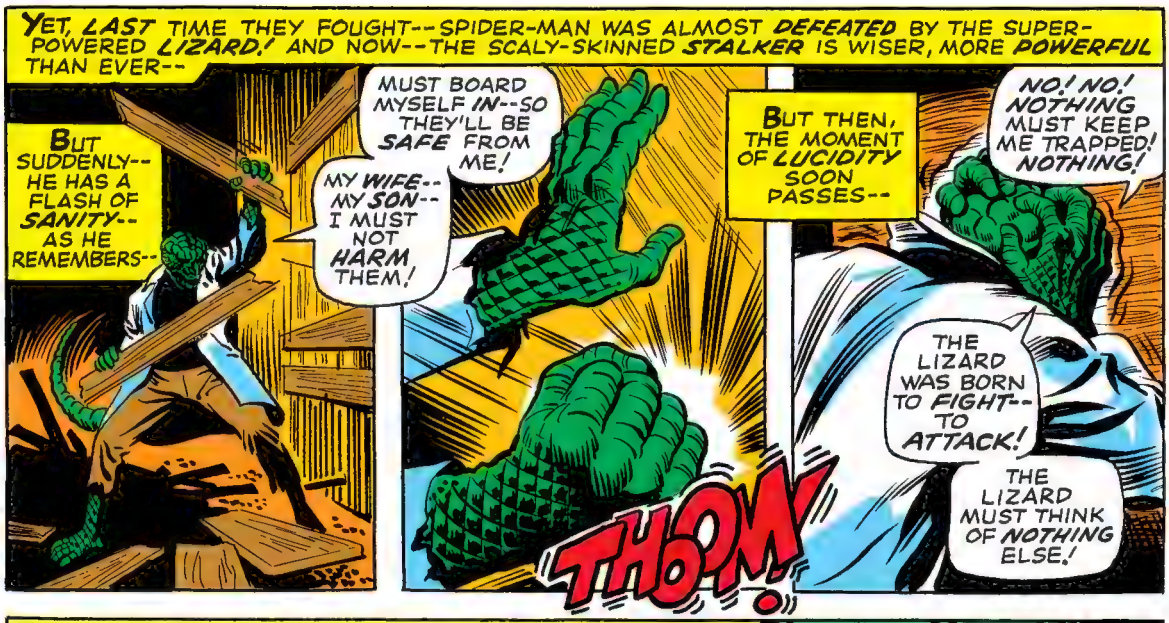
YOU SHOULD REALLY TRY TO CONTROL THOSE ANTI-SOCIAL TENDENCIES!
--'CAUSE THEY COULD BE HABIT-FORMING!
ZIK!
STAY WITH HIM--ALL OF YOU--UNTIL HE'S FINISHED!
IT IS TIME TO PUT AN END TO THE CAREER OF SILVERMANE--
AND THAT IS ONE TASK I SHALL PERFORM ALONE!
WHAT IS THIS? HAS SOMEONE ALREADY BEATEN ME TO IT?
SILVER-MANE! YOU SHALL NOT ROB ME OF MY VICTORY!
NO! NO!
IT CANNOT BE! IT IS IMPOSSIBLE! IT IS MADNESS!
I DID NOT KNOW-- THERE'D BE-- NO STOPPING IT!
WITH EVERY HEARTBEAT --I GROW YOUNGER-- YOUNGER--
BUT-- WHERE WILL IT END??
15

MY VOICE-- THE VOICE OF--A TEENAGER!
MY BODY-- GETTING SLIMMER-- WEAKER-- SMALLER-- WITH EACH PASSING SECOND!
THIS IS NOT THE WAY I PLANNED IT!
I WANTED LIFE ETERNAL-- POWER OVER ALL WHO LIVE--
THAT ALONE WAS MY GOAL!
BUT-- NOT THIS! NOT THIS!
NOT THIS!
THAT SCREAM-- COMING FROM THE SPOT WHERE I LEFT SILVER-MANE!
16

A BOY-- RUSHING FROM THE ROOM-- AS THOUGH SATAN HIMSELF IS AT HIS HEELS!
BUT--THE CLOTHES HE'S WEARING --THERE CAN BE NO MISTAKING THEM!
THAT YOUTHFUL FIGURE--JUST SECONDS AGO-- WAS THE MURDEROUS SILVERMANE!
SORRY, SWEETIES! IT'S TIME TO TAKE OFF THE KID GLOVES!
I'LL HAVE TO FINISH YOUR BOXING LESSON SOME OTHER TIME!
BUT DON'T WORRY! I'LL TELL CICERO YOU FOUGHT LIKE SAVAGES!
--'CAUSE I KNOW HOW HE TAKES THESE THINGS TO HEART!
STILL NO TRACE OF CONNORS!
BUT HE HAS TO BE HERE SOMEWHERE!
WHAT'S THAT-- IN THE ROOM BEHIND ME--?
SOUNDS LIKE-- A CHILD SOBBING--
CRRRRRAK!
17


THE SOBS-- ARE FADING AWAY-- INTO NOTHINGNESS--!
SILVERMANE FOUND THE YOUTH HE SOUGHT--
AND THE PRIZE WILL BE HIS-- FOREVER!


THAT WAS WHY THE TABLET'S SECRET HAD TO BE COUCHED IN HIEROGLYPHICS--
IT WAS A SECRET TOO DANGEROUS--TOO DEADLY--FOR ANY MAN TO POSSESS!
UP AHEAD--THOSE VOICES THRU THE DOOR! I'D KNOW THEM ANYWHERE!
MRS. CONNORS! BILLY! GET BACK--STAND AWAY FROM THE DOOR--!
SPASH!
MOM--LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN! HE'S ALIVE--HE FOUND US!
YOUR FATHER, BILLY--WHERE IS HE? WHAT HAPPENED TO DR. CONNORS?
WE DON'T KNOW! FOR A MOMENT--I DARED TO HOPE--HE WAS WITH YOU!
ANYWAY, YOU CAN BOTH COME OUT NOW!
THERE'LL BE TIME ENOUGH LATER FOR EXPLANATIONS!
BUT NOW, THE IMPORTANT THING IS--YOU'RE BOTH ALIVE--AND UNHARMED!
AND A PORTION OF THE MAGGIA'S POWER HAS BEEN STRIPPED AWAY--FOR GOOD!
BUT WHY ISN'T MY HUSBAND HERE? WHAT CAN HAVE HAPPENED TO CURT?
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT COULD KEEP HIM FROM US--EITHER HE'S BEEN INJURED--OR--
NO! I-I CAN'T EVEN SAY IT!
WE KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, MOM! BUT, IF HE DID BECOME THE LIZARD--AT LEAST SPIDER-MAN IS HERE TO HELP US!


YET, LAST TIME THEY FOUGHT--SPIDER-MAN WAS ALMOST DEFEATED BY THE SUPER-POWERED LIZARD! AND NOW--THE SCALY-SKINNED STALKER IS WISER, MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER--
BUT SUDDENLY--HE HAS A FLASH OF SANITY--AS HE REMEMBERS--
MY WIFE--MY SON--I MUST NOT HARM THEM!
MUST BOARD MYSELF IN--SO THEY'LL BE SAFE FROM ME!
BUT THEN, THE MOMENT OF LUCIDITY SOON PASSES--
NO! NO! NOTHING MUST KEEP ME TRAPPED! NOTHING!
THE LIZARD WAS BORN TO FIGHT--TO ATTACK!
THE LIZARD MUST THINK OF NOTHING ELSE!
THOOM!

DEEP BENEATH THE BESTIAL EXTERIOR, THE ESSENCE OF DR. CONNORS STRUGGLES FOR CONTROL--STRUGGLES FOR REASON--
BUT, WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT, HIS IDENTITY FADES--UNTIL IT IS FELT NO MORE! UNTIL, AT LAST--

NEXT THE LIZARD LIVES!

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THE LIZARD LIVES!
NOTHING CAN STOP THE LIZARD!
I MUST BE FREE! FREE TO RUN... AND CLIMB... AND LEAP...
FREE TO VENT MY BURNING RAGE AGAINST THE HUMAN RACE...
ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE ONE I DESPISE THE MOST...
THE ONE I MUST DESTROY...
THE ONE CALLED... SPIDER-MAN!
SMILIN' STAN LEE, AUTHOR.
BIG JOHN BUSCEMA, INNOVATOR.
SLIM JIM MOONEY, ILLUSTRATOR.
HAMMY SAMMY ROSEN, LETTERER.
...ALL INVITE YOU TO A MENU OF MAGNIFICENT MAYHEM IN THE MIGHTY MARVEL MANNER!

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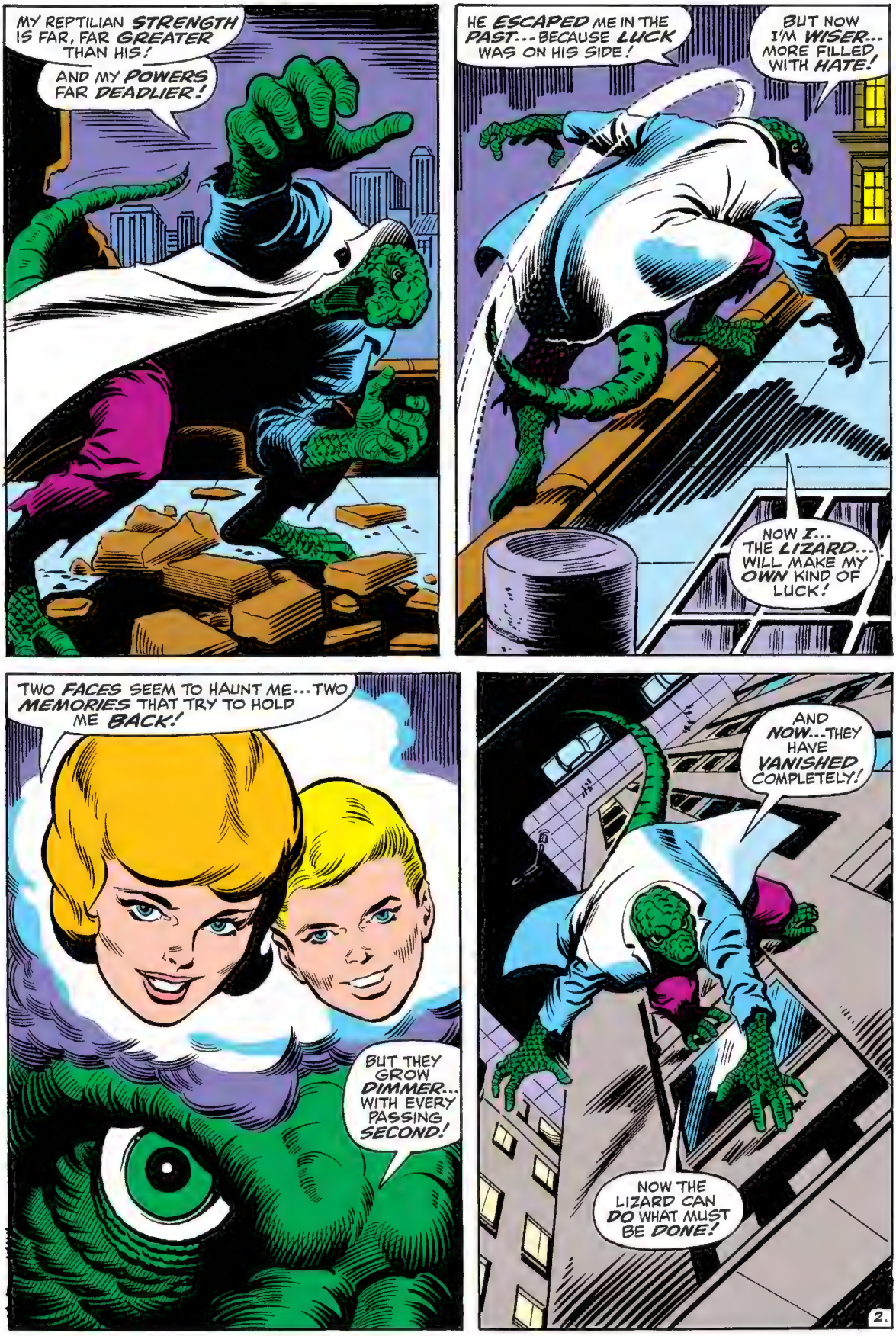
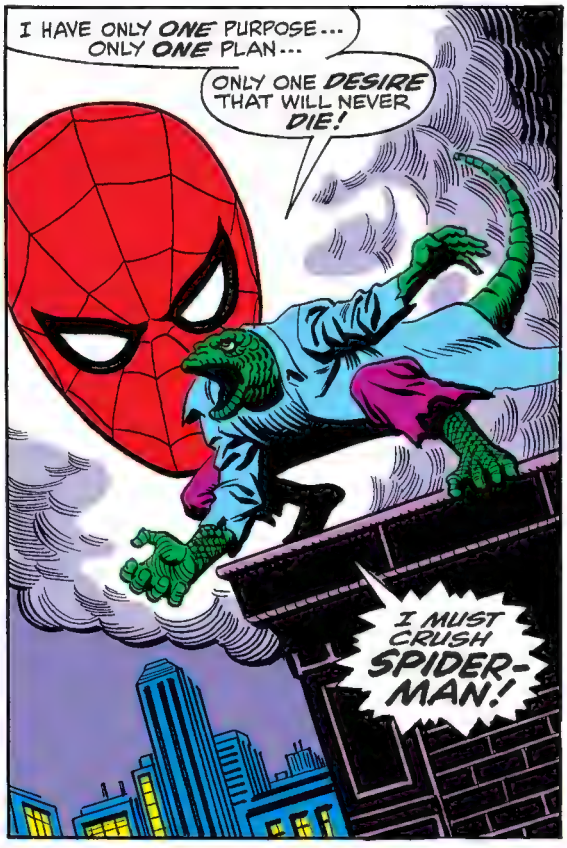
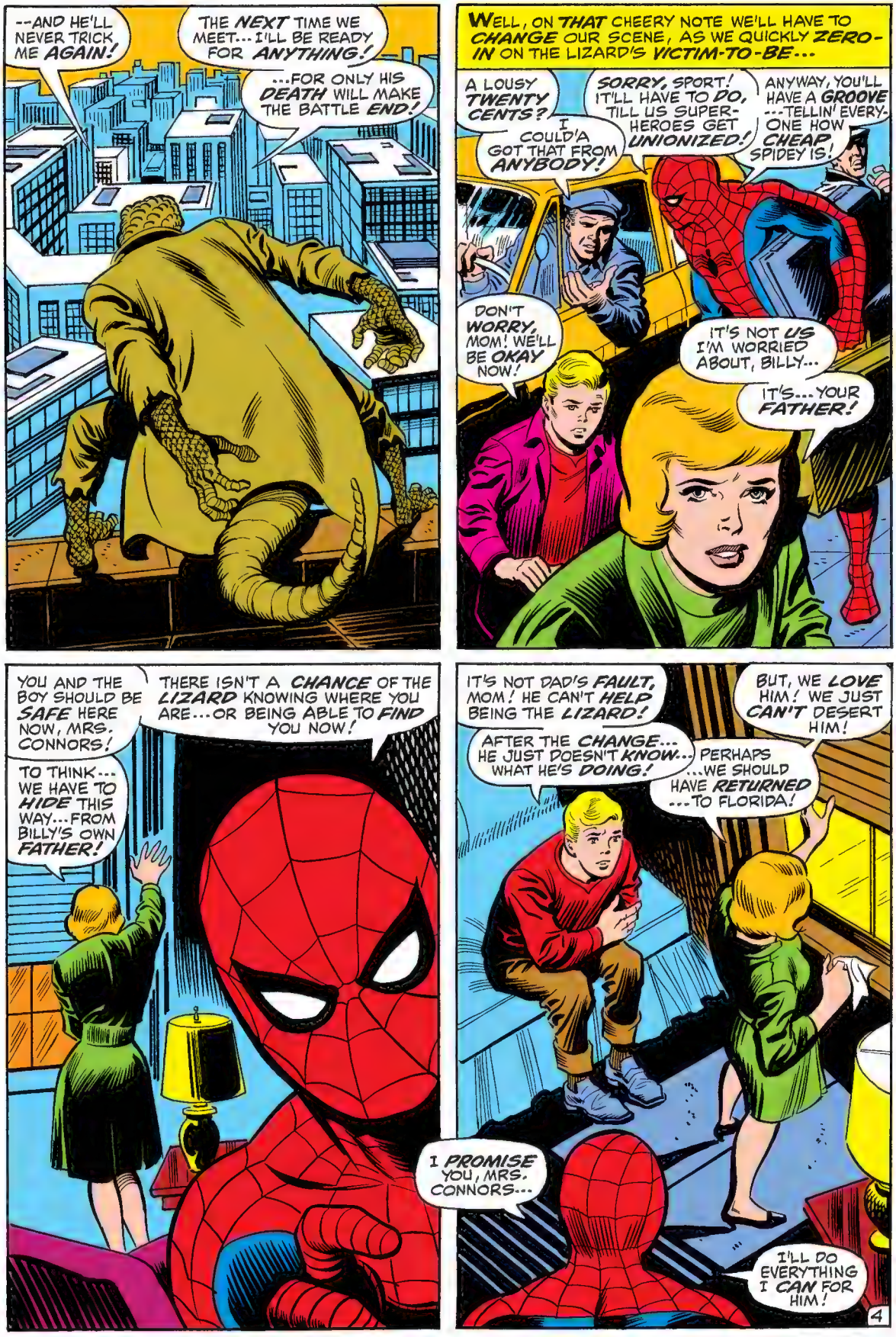

MY REPTILIAN STRENGTH IS FAR, FAR GREATER THAN HIS!
AND MY POWERS FAR DEADLIER!
HE ESCAPED ME IN THE PAST... BECAUSE LUCK WAS ON HIS SIDE!
BUT NOW I'M WISER... MORE FILLED WITH HATE!
NOW I... THE LIZARD... WILL MAKE MY OWN KIND OF LUCK!
TWO FACES SEEM TO HAUNT ME... TWO MEMORIES THAT TRY TO HOLD ME BACK!
BUT THEY GROW DIMMER... WITH EVERY PASSING SECOND!
AND NOW... THEY HAVE VANISHED COMPLETELY!
NOW THE LIZARD CAN DO WHAT MUST BE DONE!

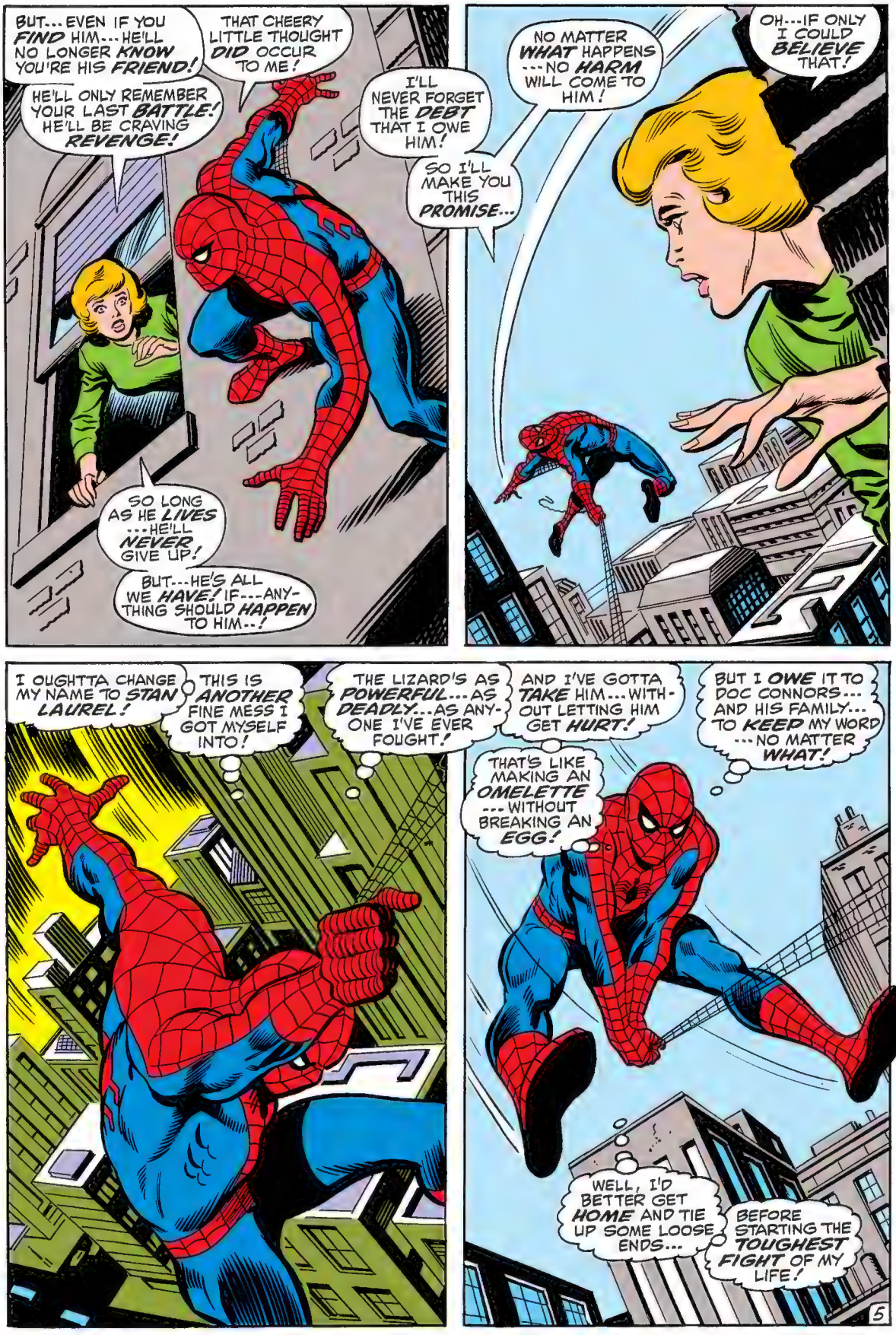

I HAVE ONLY ONE PURPOSE... ONLY ONE PLAN...
ONLY ONE DESIRE THAT WILL NEVER DIE!
I MUST CRUSH SPIDER-MAN!

HOW WELL I REMEMBER... THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT...*
I WAS THE POWER...AND I WAS THE SPUR ...WHILE HE WAS THE VICTIM!
*FROM SPIDEY #45...REMEMBER? S.

"I HAD THE STRENGTH...THE POUNDING POWER...THE SAVAGE WILL TO WIN..."
"BUT THEN...JUST AT THE LAST MINUTE...JUST AS I HAD HIM..."
"HE TRICKED ME...!"

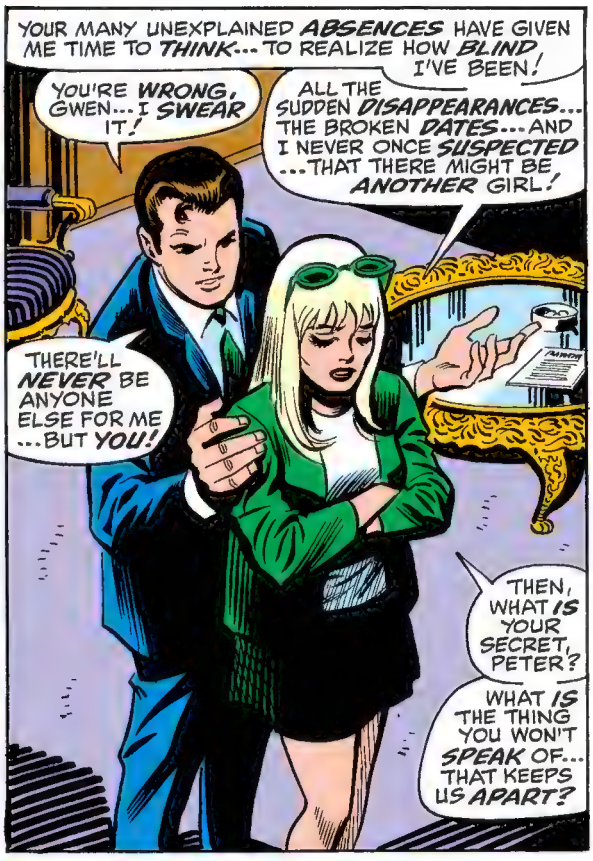
"HE LURED ME INTO A REFRIGERATOR CAR... WHERE THE ICY COLD TEMPERATURE MADE ME WEAK...AND SAPPED MY SUPERIOR STRENGTH... THE STRENGTH WHICH HAD ALMOST BEATEN HIM!"
3.

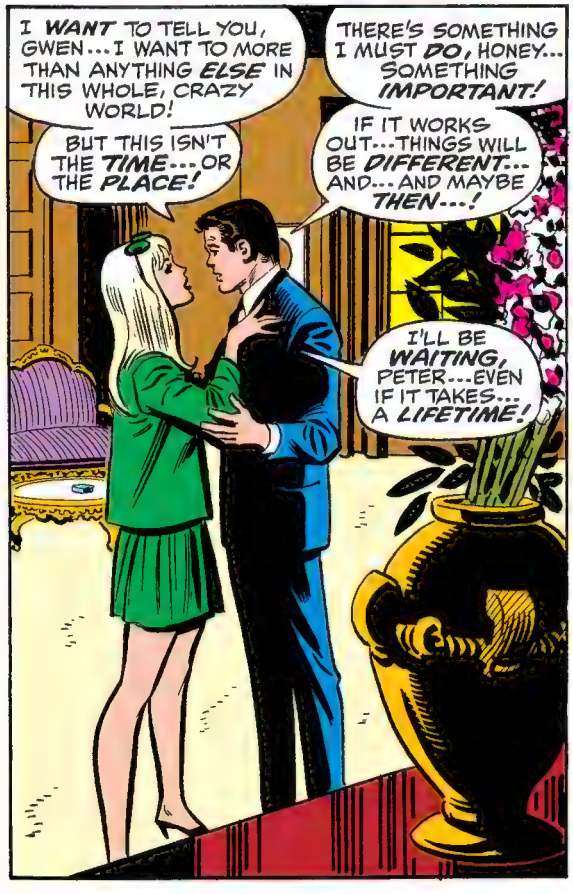

--AND HE'LL NEVER TRICK ME AGAIN!
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET--- I'LL BE READY FOR ANYTHING!
---FOR ONLY HIS DEATH WILL MAKE THE BATTLE END!
WELL, ON THAT CHEERY NOTE WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE OUR SCENE, AS WE QUICKLY ZERO-IN ON THE LIZARD'S VICTIM-TO-BE---
A LOUSY TWENTY CENTS?
I COULD'A GOT THAT FROM ANYBODY!
SORRY, SPORT! IT'LL HAVE TO DO, TILL US SUPER-HEROES GET UNIONIZED!
ANYWAY, YOU'LL HAVE A GROOVE ---TELLIN' EVERY-ONE HOW CHEAP SPIDEY IS!
DON'T WORRY, MOM! WE'LL BE OKAY NOW!
IT'S NOT US I'M WORRIED ABOUT, BILLY---
IT'S---YOUR FATHER!
YOU AND THE BOY SHOULD BE SAFE HERE NOW, MRS. CONNORS!
THERE ISN'T A CHANCE OF THE LIZARD KNOWING WHERE YOU ARE---OR BEING ABLE TO FIND YOU NOW!
TO THINK--- WE HAVE TO HIDE THIS WAY---FROM BILLY'S OWN FATHER!
IT'S NOT DAD'S FAULT, MOM! HE CAN'T HELP BEING THE LIZARD!
BUT, WE LOVE HIM! WE JUST CAN'T DESERT HIM!
AFTER THE CHANGE--- HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW--- WHAT HE'S DOING!
---PERHAPS ---WE SHOULD HAVE RETURNED ---TO FLORIDA!
I PROMISE YOU, MRS. CONNORS---
I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN FOR HIM!
4


BUT... EVEN IF YOU FIND HIM--- HE'LL NO LONGER KNOW YOU'RE HIS FRIEND!
THAT CHEERY LITTLE THOUGHT DID OCCUR TO ME!
HE'LL ONLY REMEMBER YOUR LAST BATTLE! HE'LL BE CRAVING REVENGE!
I'LL NEVER FORGET THE DEBT THAT I OWE HIM!
SO I'LL MAKE YOU THIS PROMISE...
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS --- NO HARM WILL COME TO HIM!
OH---IF ONLY I COULD BELIEVE THAT!
SO LONG AS HE LIVES ---HE'LL NEVER GIVE UP!
BUT---HE'S ALL WE HAVE! IF---ANY-THING SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM--!
I OUGHTTA CHANGE MY NAME TO STAN LAUREL!
THIS IS ANOTHER FINE MESS I GOT MYSELF INTO!
THE LIZARD'S AS POWERFUL--- AS DEADLY---AS ANY-ONE I'VE EVER FOUGHT!
AND I'VE GOTTA TAKE HIM--- WITH-OUT LETTING HIM GET HURT!
BUT I OWE IT TO DOC CONNORS--- AND HIS FAMILY--- TO KEEP MY WORD --- NO MATTER WHAT!
THAT'S LIKE MAKING AN OMELETTE --- WITHOUT BREAKING AN EGG!
WELL, I'D BETTER GET HOME AND TIE UP SOME LOOSE ENDS...
BEFORE STARTING THE TOUGHEST FIGHT OF MY LIFE!
5

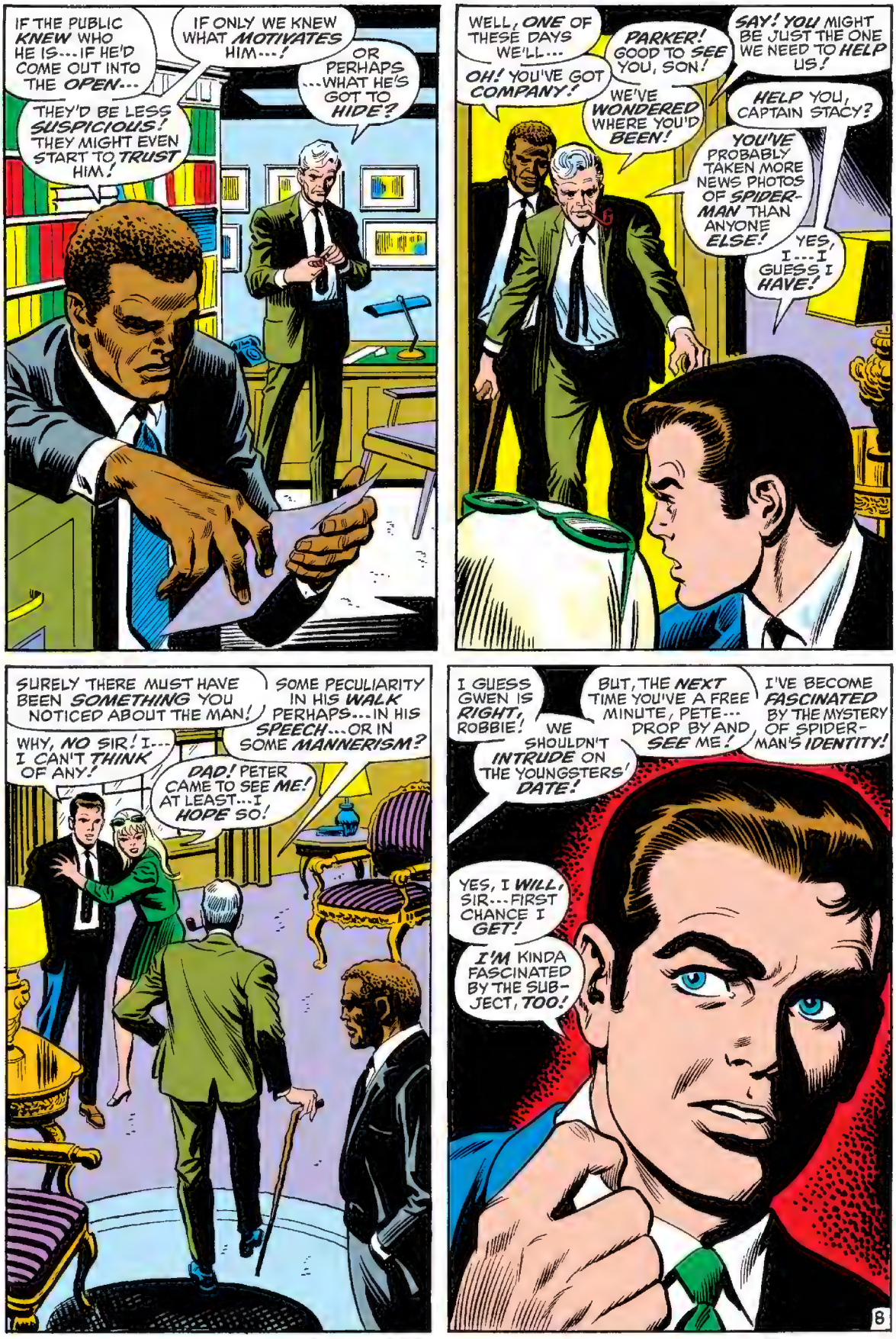
THUS, MINUTES LATER...
CAN'T TAKE THE LIZARD TILL I SEE GWENDY AGAIN!
JUST IN CASE...IT MAY BE THE LAST TIME!
AWW, CUT IT OUT, PARKER!
TRY TO LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE!
...IF YOU CAN FIND IT!
BUT FIRST, I'LL PUT THRU A CALL TO AUNT MAY!
HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO SEE HOW SHE'S FEELING LATELY!
AND EVEN IN FLORIDA, A PERSON CAN GET LONELY!
PETER DEAR! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHY HAVEN'T YOU CALLED?
I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN BUSY... BUT I DO WORRY SO!
ESPECIALLY WHILE YOU'RE ALONE...WITH NO ONE TO LOOK AFTER YOU!
BE SURE TO GET ENOUGH SLEEP, DEAR... AND TAKE YOUR VITAMIN PILLS!
YOU KNOW HOW EASILY YOU CATCH COLD!
LOOK, YOU JUST SOAK UP THAT SUN AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING!
I'VE GOT LOTS OF PEOPLE TO LOOK AFTER ME!
YEAH... LIKE THE LIZARD!
IN FACT, HERE COMES ONE OF THEM NOW!
IT'S MY GLOOMY ROOMIE... HARRY OSBORN!
GOTTA HANG UP NOW, GIRL FRIEND!
THE PHONE COMPANY'S RICH ENOUGH!
HI, HARR! STILL SPORTING YOUR NEW FU MANCHU, HUH?
YOU KNOW IT, SON!
IT MAY NOT TURN YOU ON... BUT IT DRIVES MARY JANE MAAAD!
WELL, 'SCUSE ME, OL' BUDDY... GOTTA RUN!
YOU'RE GONNA GIVE ME A COMPLEX...
I'LL START THINKING I'VE GOT BAD BREATH!
ALWAYS RUNNING OUT WHEN HE WANTS TO SHOOT THE BREEZE!
IF ONLY THINGS WOULD QUIET DOWN... SO I COULD PICK UP THE STRANDS OF MY NORMAL LIFE!
HARRY'S RIGHT! I'VE SURE BEEN A CRUMMY FRIEND TO HIM...
OR, IS THAT TOO MUCH FOR ME TO HOPE FOR?
SILVER SURFER
6

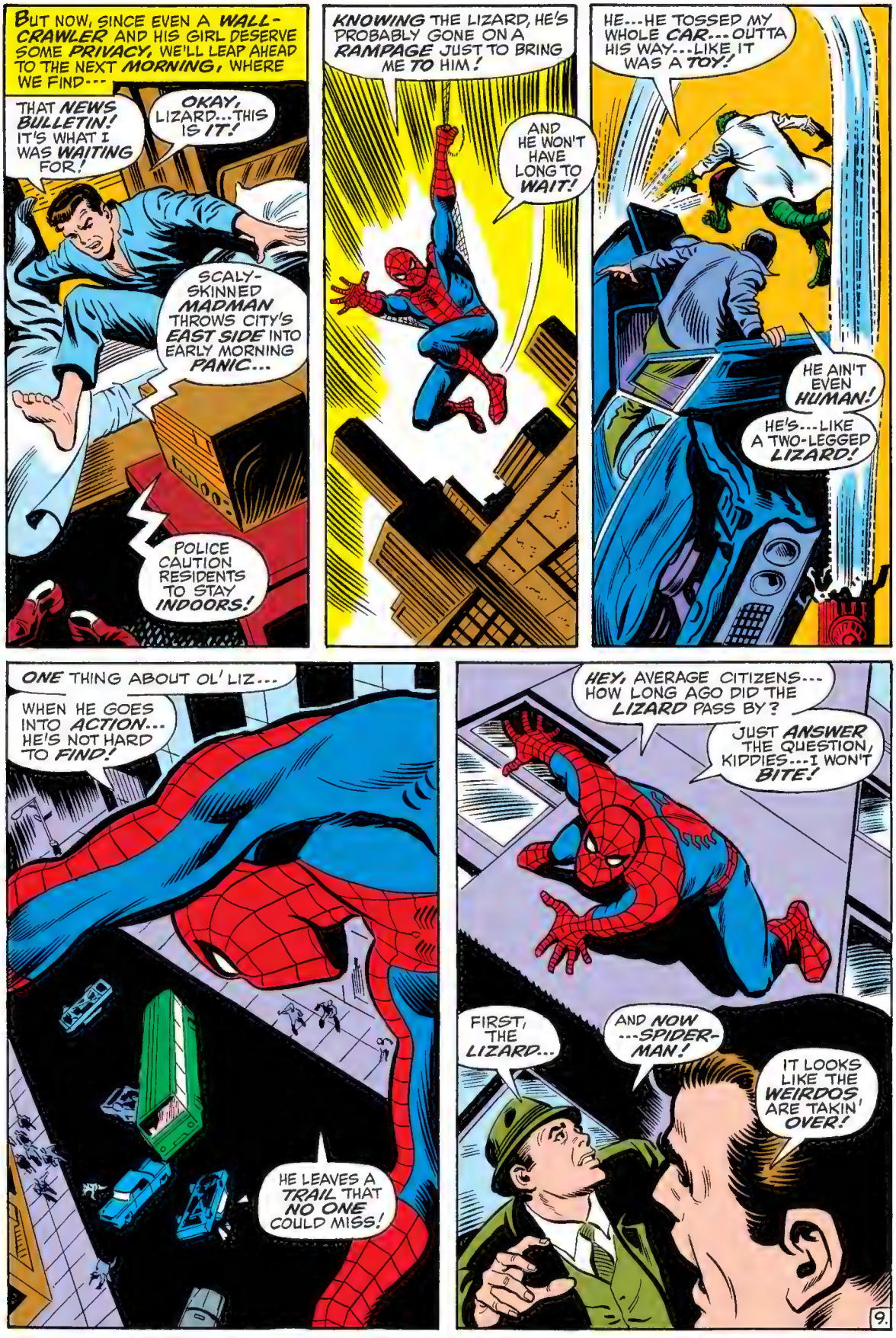
RACKED BY DOUBTS... PLAGUED BY A THOUSAND ANXIETIES... THE TROUBLED YOUTH FINALLY REACHES THE STACY HOME, TO FACE THE GIRL HE LOVES...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S CHANGED YOU THESE PAST WEEKS, PETER...
UNLESS... YOU'VE SIMPLY FOUND SOMEBODY NEW... AND CAN'T BRING YOURSELF TO TELL ME!
GWEN! YOU KNOW THAT ISN'T SO!
DO I, MR. PARKER? JUST HOW DO I KNOW?

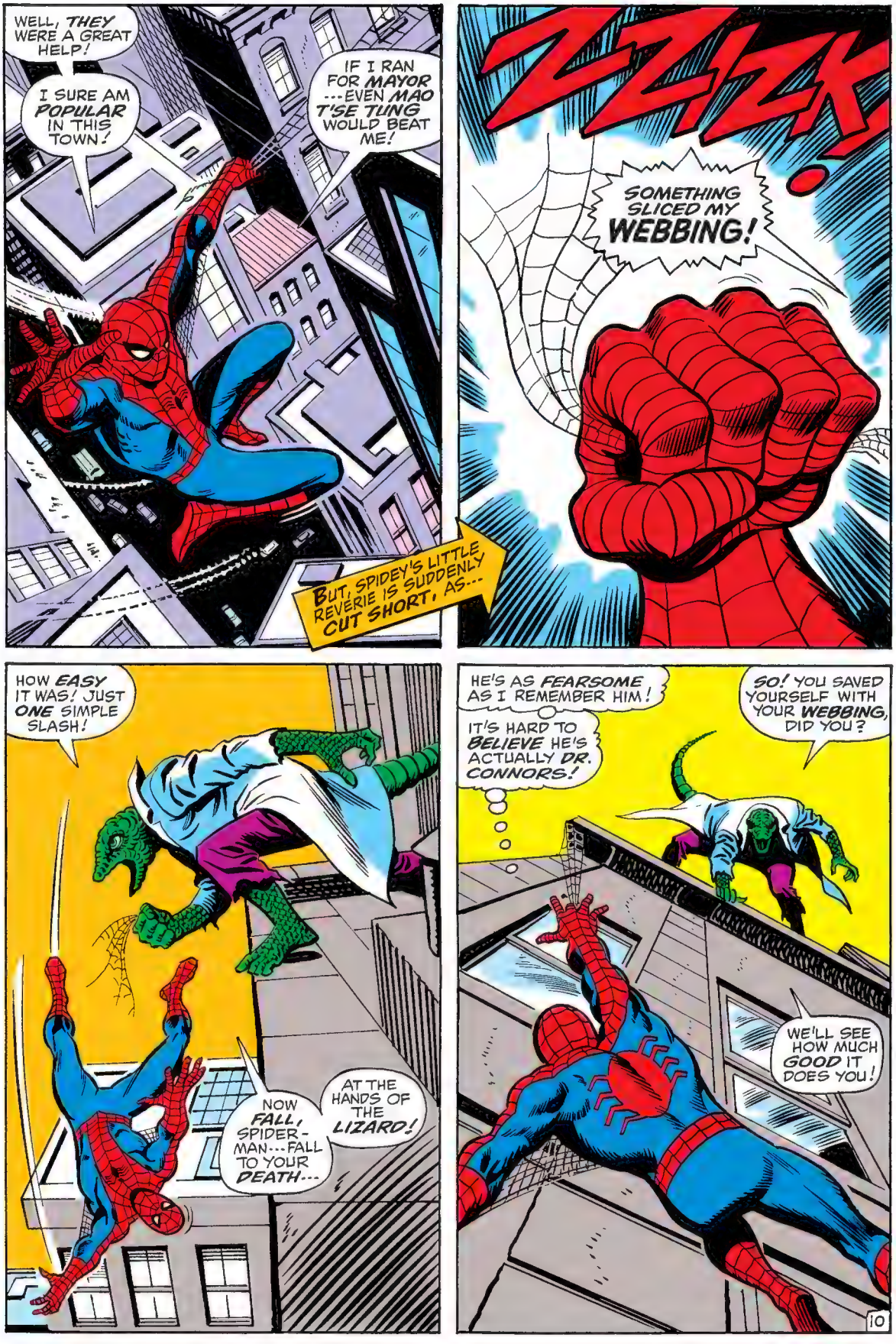

YOUR MANY UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES HAVE GIVEN ME TIME TO THINK... TO REALIZE HOW BLIND I'VE BEEN!
YOU'RE WRONG, GWEN... I SWEAR IT!
ALL THE SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCES... THE BROKEN DATES... AND I NEVER ONCE SUSPECTED ...THAT THERE MIGHT BE ANOTHER GIRL!
THERE'LL NEVER BE ANYONE ELSE FOR ME ...BUT YOU!
THEN, WHAT IS YOUR SECRET, PETER?
WHAT IS THE THING YOU WON'T SPEAK OF... THAT KEEPS US APART?

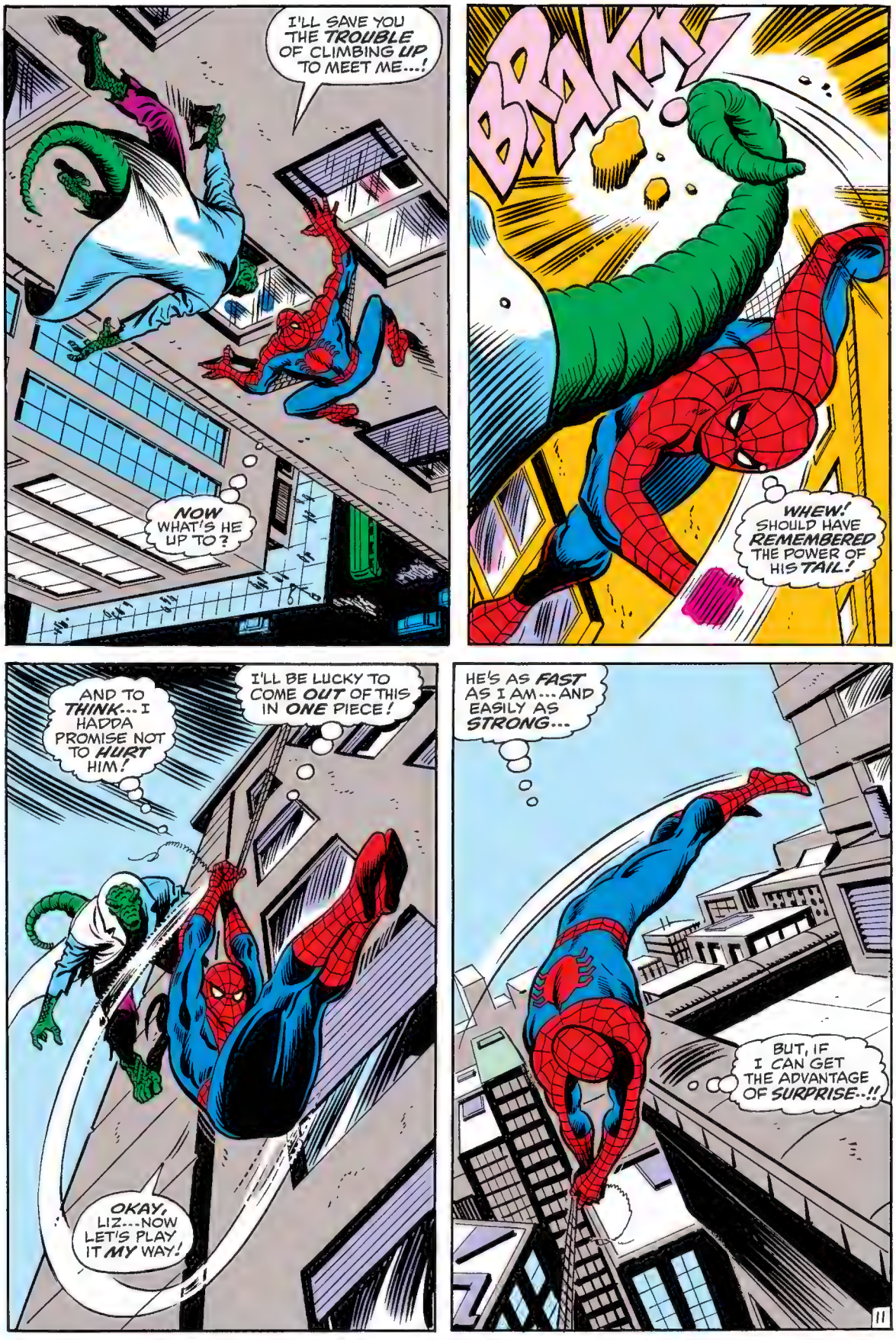

I WANT TO TELL YOU, GWEN... I WANT TO MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THIS WHOLE, CRAZY WORLD!
BUT THIS ISN'T THE TIME... OR THE PLACE!
THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST DO, HONEY... SOMETHING IMPORTANT!
IF IT WORKS OUT... THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT... AND... AND MAYBE THEN...!
I'LL BE WAITING, PETER... EVEN IF IT TAKES... A LIFETIME!

MEANWHILE, IN THE VERY NEXT ROOM...
I AGREE WITH YOU, ROBBIE...
SPIDER-MAN IS NO MORE A MENACE TO SOCIETY THAN WE ARE!
BUT WHY DOES HE KEEP HIS IDENTITY A SECRET?

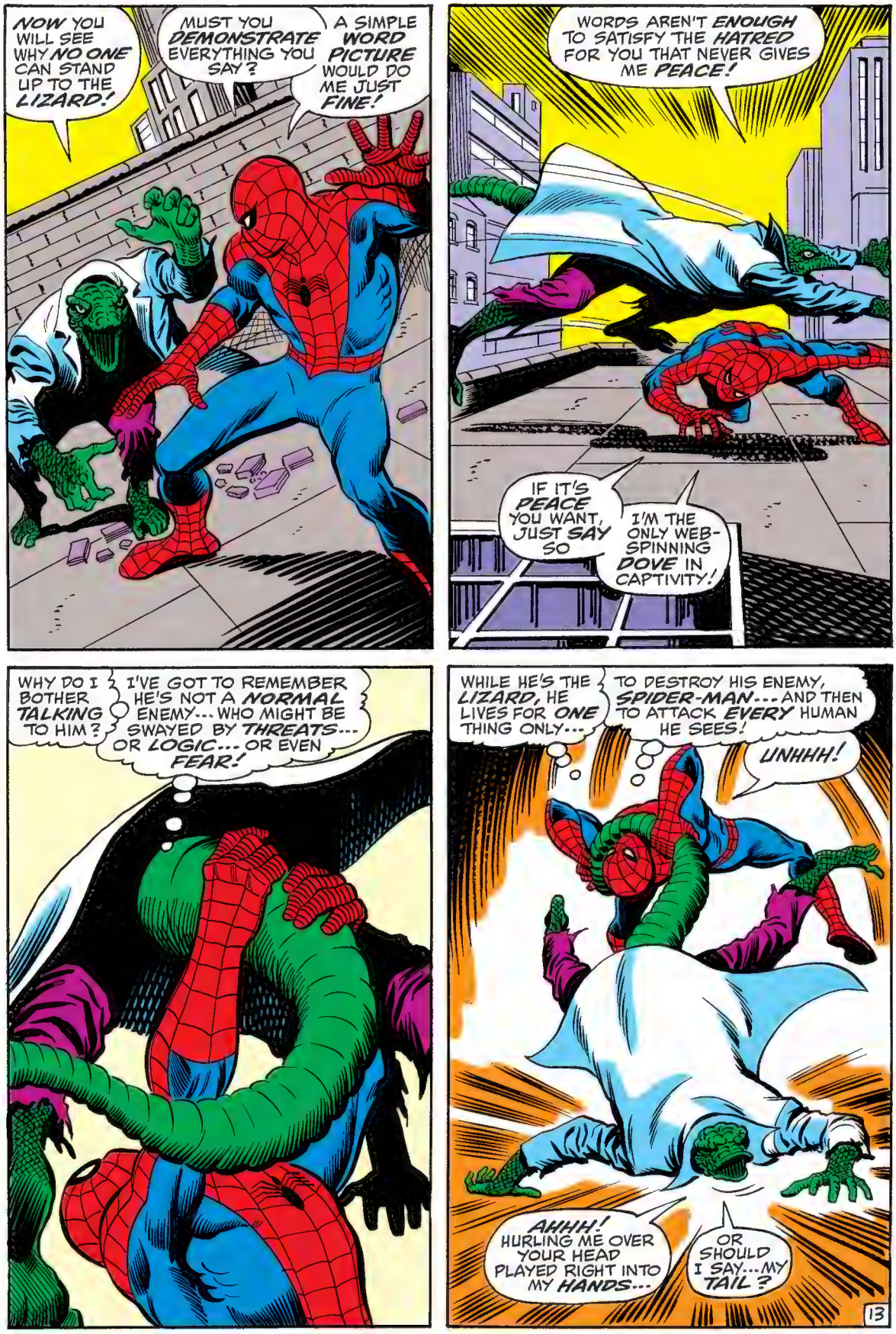

IF THE PUBLIC KNEW WHO HE IS---IF HE'D COME OUT INTO THE OPEN---
IF ONLY WE KNEW WHAT MOTIVATES HIM---!
OR PERHAPS ---WHAT HE'S GOT TO HIDE?
THEY'D BE LESS SUSPICIOUS! THEY MIGHT EVEN START TO TRUST HIM!
WELL, ONE OF THESE DAYS WE'LL---
OH! YOU'VE GOT COMPANY!
PARKER! GOOD TO SEE YOU, SON!
WE'VE WONDERED WHERE YOU'D BEEN!
SAY! YOU MIGHT BE JUST THE ONE WE NEED TO HELP US!
HELP YOU, CAPTAIN STACY?
YOU'VE PROBABLY TAKEN MORE NEWS PHOTOS OF SPIDER-MAN THAN ANYONE ELSE!
YES, I---I GUESS I HAVE!
SURELY THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING YOU NOTICED ABOUT THE MAN!
SOME PECULIARITY IN HIS WALK PERHAPS---IN HIS SPEECH---OR IN SOME MANNERISM?
WHY, NO SIR! I--- I CAN'T THINK OF ANY!
DAD! PETER CAME TO SEE ME! AT LEAST---I HOPE SO!
I GUESS GWEN IS RIGHT, ROBBIE!
WE SHOULDN'T INTRUDE ON THE YOUNGSTERS' DATE!
BUT, THE NEXT TIME YOU'VE A FREE MINUTE, PETE--- DROP BY AND SEE ME!
I'VE BECOME FASCINATED BY THE MYSTERY OF SPIDER-MAN'S IDENTITY!
YES, I WILL, SIR---FIRST CHANCE I GET!
I'M KINDA FASCINATED BY THE SUB-JECT, TOO!
8


BUT NOW, SINCE EVEN A WALL-CRAWLER AND HIS GIRL DESERVE SOME PRIVACY, WE'LL LEAP AHEAD TO THE NEXT MORNING, WHERE WE FIND---
THAT NEWS BULLETIN! IT'S WHAT I WAS WAITING FOR!
OKAY, LIZARD...THIS IS IT!
SCALY-SKINNED MADMAN THROWS CITY'S EAST SIDE INTO EARLY MORNING PANIC...
POLICE CAUTION RESIDENTS TO STAY INDOORS!
KNOWING THE LIZARD, HE'S PROBABLY GONE ON A RAMPAGE JUST TO BRING ME TO HIM!
AND HE WON'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT!
HE---HE TOSSED MY WHOLE CAR---OUTTA HIS WAY---LIKE IT WAS A TOY!
HE AIN'T EVEN HUMAN!
HE'S---LIKE A TWO-LEGGED LIZARD!
ONE THING ABOUT OL' LIZ---
WHEN HE GOES INTO ACTION... HE'S NOT HARD TO FIND!
HE LEAVES A TRAIL THAT NO ONE COULD MISS!
HEY, AVERAGE CITIZENS---HOW LONG AGO DID THE LIZARD PASS BY?
JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION, KIDDIES---I WON'T BITE!
FIRST, THE LIZARD...
AND NOW ---SPIDER-MAN!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE WEIRDOS, ARE TAKIN' OVER!
9.


WELL, THEY WERE A GREAT HELP!
I SURE AM POPULAR IN THIS TOWN!
IF I RAN FOR MAYOR ...EVEN MAO T'SE TUNG WOULD BEAT ME!
BUT, SPIDEY'S LITTLE REVERIE IS SUDDENLY CUT SHORT, AS...
ZZZK!
SOMETHING SLICED MY WEBBING!
HOW EASY IT WAS! JUST ONE SIMPLE SLASH!
NOW FALL, SPIDER-MAN... FALL TO YOUR DEATH...
AT THE HANDS OF THE LIZARD!
HE'S AS FEARSOME AS I REMEMBER HIM!
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HE'S ACTUALLY DR. CONNORS!
SO! YOU SAVED YOURSELF WITH YOUR WEBBING, DID YOU?
WE'LL SEE HOW MUCH GOOD IT DOES YOU!


I'LL SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE OF CLIMBING UP TO MEET ME...!
NOW WHAT'S HE UP TO?
BRAKK!
WHEW! SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THE POWER OF HIS TAIL!
AND TO THINK... I HADDA PROMISE NOT TO HURT HIM!
I'LL BE LUCKY TO COME OUT OF THIS IN ONE PIECE!
OKAY, LIZ... NOW LET'S PLAY IT MY WAY!
HE'S AS FAST AS I AM... AND EASILY AS STRONG...
BUT, IF I CAN GET THE ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE..!!
11

NOW!
THANKS, BUDDY! I HOPED YOU'D LEAP LIKE THAT!
SAVES ME THE TROUBLE OF LIFTING YOU!
THAT OUGHTTA QUIET HIM LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO THINK OF SOMETHING!
THOOOM!
HAVEN'T YOU REALIZED YET THAT MY SKIN IS LIKE ARMOR?
IT'S AS BAD AS I FEARED!
I GAVE IT ALL I HAD...AND HE'S NOT EVEN BRUISED!


NOW YOU WILL SEE WHY NO ONE CAN STAND UP TO THE LIZARD!
MUST YOU DEMONSTRATE EVERYTHING YOU SAY?
A SIMPLE WORD PICTURE WOULD DO ME JUST FINE!
WORDS AREN'T ENOUGH TO SATISFY THE HATRED FOR YOU THAT NEVER GIVES ME PEACE!
IF IT'S PEACE YOU WANT, JUST SAY SO
I'M THE ONLY WEB-SPINNING DOVE IN CAPTIVITY!
WHY DO I BOTHER TALKING TO HIM?
I'VE GOT TO REMEMBER HE'S NOT A NORMAL ENEMY... WHO MIGHT BE SWAYED BY THREATS... OR LOGIC... OR EVEN FEAR!
WHILE HE'S THE LIZARD, HE LIVES FOR ONE THING ONLY...
TO DESTROY HIS ENEMY, SPIDER-MAN... AND THEN TO ATTACK EVERY HUMAN HE SEES!
UNHHH!
AHHH! HURLING ME OVER YOUR HEAD PLAYED RIGHT INTO MY HANDS...
OR SHOULD I SAY... MY TAIL?
13

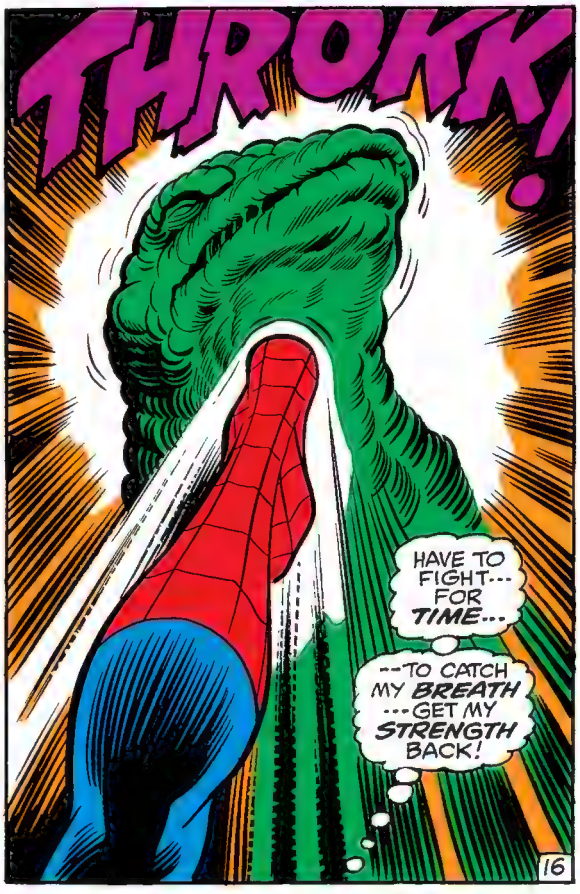
AND NOW, AT LAST... THE MOMENT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
THE MOMENT WHEN I HAVE YOU... LIMP AND HELPLESS... COMPLETELY AT MY MERCY!
BTAM!
EXCEPT... AS YOU CAN SEE...
THE LIZARD HAS NO MERCY!
THE WAY HE'S SWINGING ME AROUND... HE WANTS TO DASH ME... TO THE PAVEMENT!
SPIDER-MAN, FAREWELL! YOU WERE JUST A FEEBLE INTER-RUPTION!
NOW, WITH YOU GONE, I CAN CONTINUE MY TRUE LIFE'S WORK...
I CAN CLAIM EARTH'S SURFACE FOR THE REPTILE WORLD!

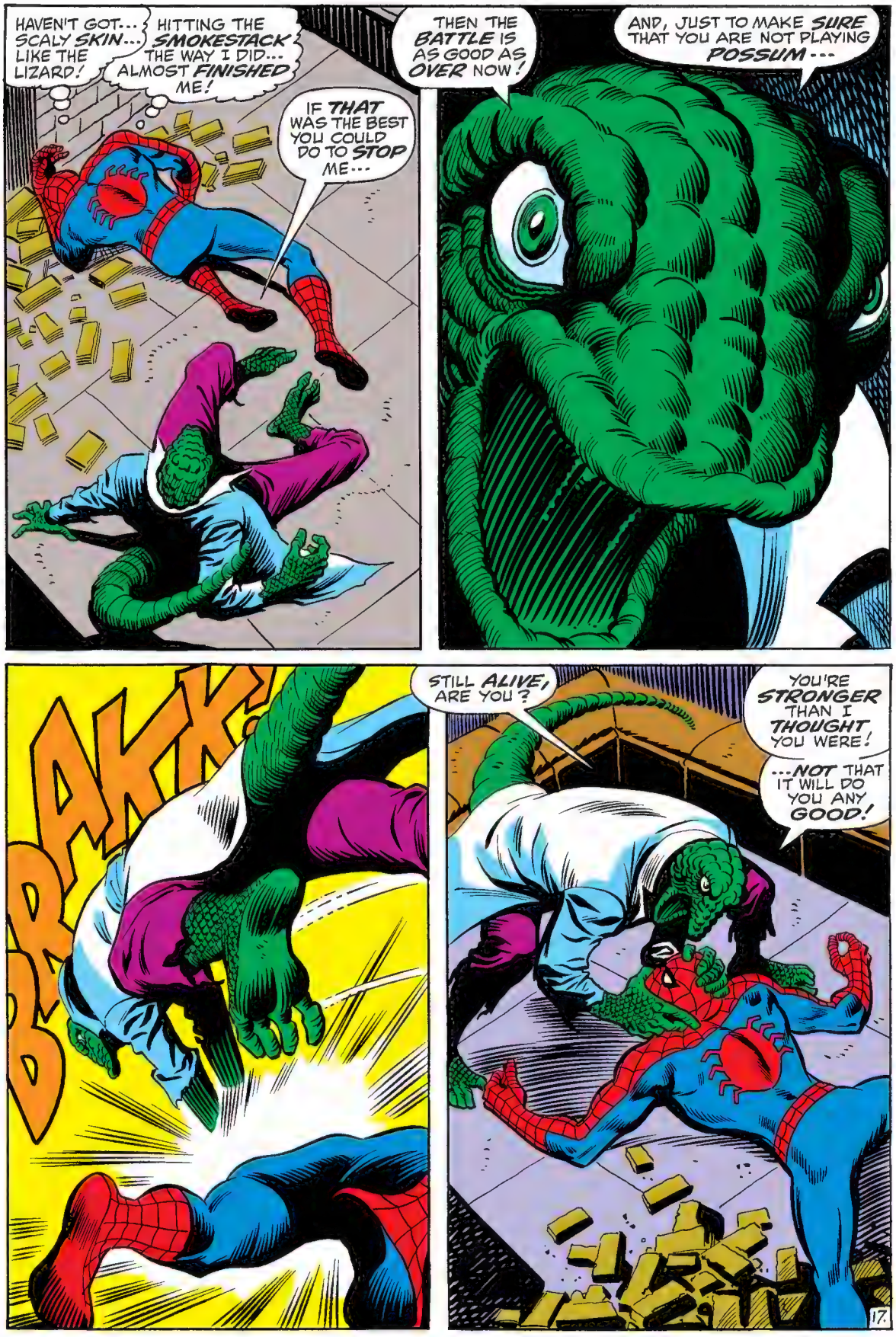
AND SO··· I WIN! SPIDER-MAN IS DESTROYED··· AT LAST!
HAVE TO TURN IN MID-AIR···AND LASH OUT···AT THE SOUND OF HIS VOICE!
EVERTHING DEPENDS ON ONE QUICK MOVEMENT···!
VVZANNG!
HE'S SPINNING AROUND... SNAPPING HIS WEB...
HE CAUGHT ME··· BEFORE I COULD MOVE!
HE'S CLUTCHING AT MY WEB···WITH FINGERS LIKE STEEL FILES!
IF HE SNAPS THE STRANDS···BEFORE I REACH HIM···!
ARGHH!
15

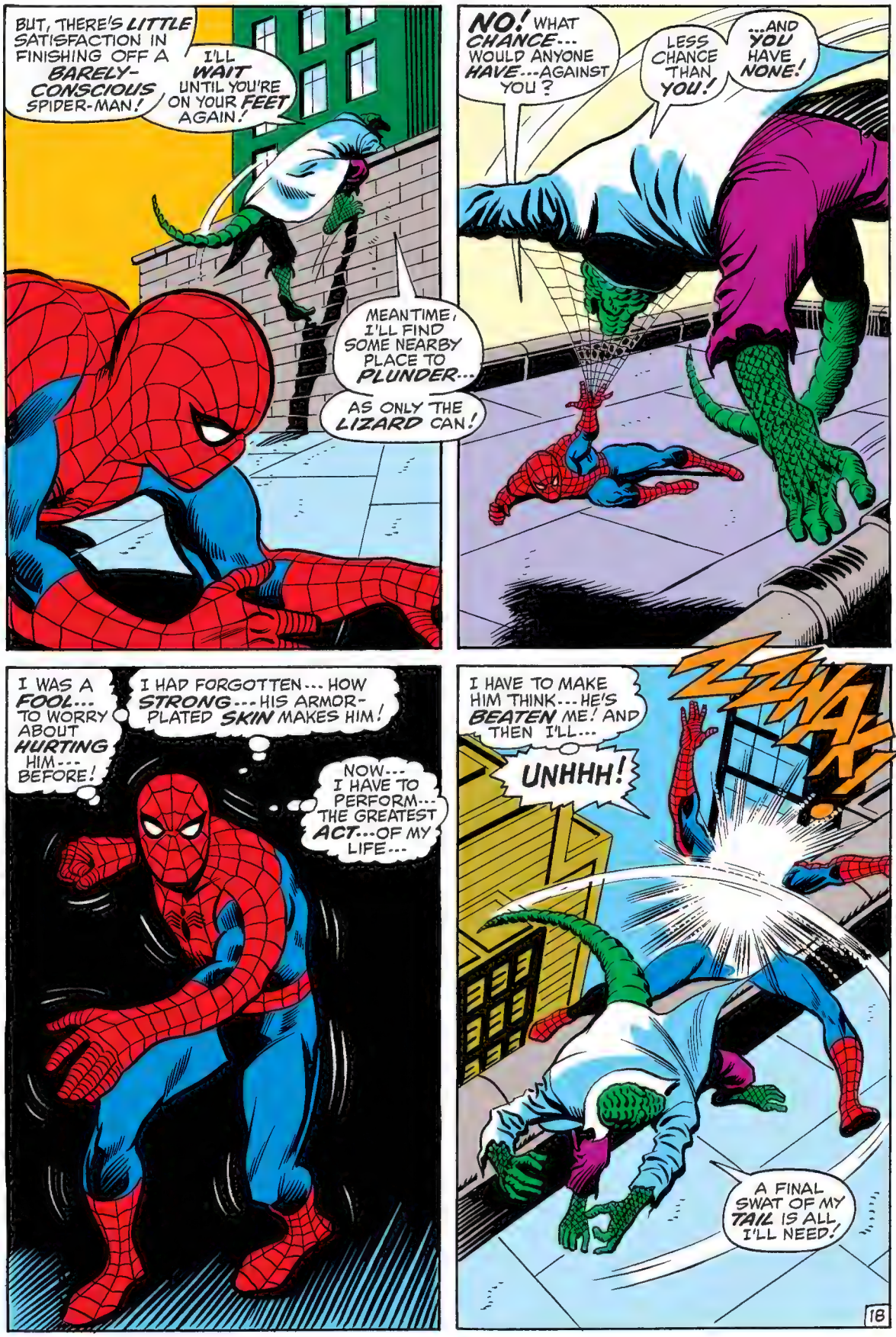
I'M TOO LATE! HE DID IT!
HE'S GOT IT IN HIS HANDS... WHIRLING ME AROUND!

ALL BECAUSE... I TRIED NOT TO HARM HIM!
I KEPT THE PROMISE I MADE... BUT...
UPPFFFF!

THIS TIME, SPIDER-MAN, THERE'LL BE NO SECOND CHANCE!
THAT'S IT! COME TOWARDS ME!
CLOSER! A LITTLE CLOSER..!


THROKK!
HAVE TO FIGHT... FOR TIME...
--TO CATCH MY BREATH ...GET MY STRENGTH BACK!


HAVEN'T GOT... SCALY SKIN... LIKE THE LIZARD!
HITTING THE SMOKESTACK THE WAY I DID... ALMOST FINISHED ME!
IF THAT WAS THE BEST YOU COULD DO TO STOP ME...
THEN THE BATTLE IS AS GOOD AS OVER NOW!
AND, JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE NOT PLAYING POSSUM...
AKK!
BR
STILL ALIVE, ARE YOU?
YOU'RE STRONGER THAN I THOUGHT YOU WERE!
...NOT THAT IT WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD!


BUT, THERE'S LITTLE SATISFACTION IN FINISHING OFF A BARELY-CONSCIOUS SPIDER-MAN!
I'LL WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE ON YOUR FEET AGAIN!
MEANTIME, I'LL FIND SOME NEARBY PLACE TO PLUNDER...
AS ONLY THE LIZARD CAN!
NO! WHAT CHANCE... WOULD ANYONE HAVE...AGAINST YOU?
LESS CHANCE THAN YOU!
...AND YOU HAVE NONE!
I WAS A FOOL... TO WORRY ABOUT HURTING HIM... BEFORE!
I HAD FORGOTTEN... HOW STRONG... HIS ARMOR-PLATED SKIN MAKES HIM!
NOW... I HAVE TO PERFORM... THE GREATEST ACT... OF MY LIFE...
I HAVE TO MAKE HIM THINK... HE'S BEATEN ME! AND THEN I'LL...
UNHHH!
ZZWAK!
A FINAL SWAT OF MY TAIL IS ALL I'LL NEED!

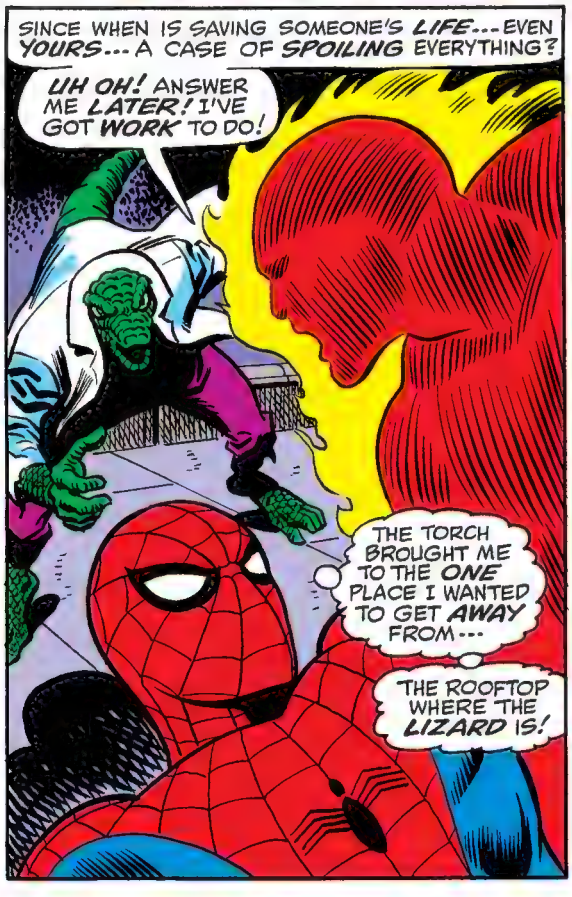
AND SO ENDS THE CAREER OF THE BEATEN SPIDER-MAN!
THAT'S IT... DROP ME!
I'VE GOT IT ALL PLANNED!

LOOK! UP THERE! IT'S THE LIZARD!
HE'S GOT SPIDER-MAN!
HE...HE'S ABOUT TO DROP HIM!

BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, AN UNPREDICTABLE FATE TAKES A HAND---IN THE PRESENCE OF THE FLAMING, FLYING, FANTASTIC HUMAN TORCH---
IF I SEE WHAT I THINK I SEE DOWN THERE---
THERE'S A FRIENDLY, NEIGHBOR-HOOD SPIDER-MAN IN SOME REAL BIG TROUBLE!

IT WORKED! HE DROPPED ME!
THEN, I'LL SWING IN, AND WAIT FOR HIM TO COME TO ME!
NOW, I'LL SPIN AROUND AGAIN AND WEB ONTO A NEARBY WINDOW!

AND BY THE TIME HE REACHES ME, I'LL BE READY FOR--- WHA--?!
I'M JUST IN TIME!
I'LL DOUSE THE FLAME IN MY ARMS, SO AS NOT TO BURN YOU!
LET GO OF ME, MATCHHEAD! YOU'LL SPOIL EVERYTHING!


SINCE WHEN IS SAVING SOMEONE'S LIFE--- EVEN YOURS--- A CASE OF SPOILING EVERYTHING?
UH OH! ANSWER ME LATER! I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
THE TORCH BROUGHT ME TO THE ONE PLACE I WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM---
THE ROOFTOP WHERE THE LIZARD IS!

UNLIKE ME--- THAT FLAMING KIBITZER WILL USE ALL HIS POWER TO DESTROY HIM---
AND I'M STILL TOO WEAK TO STOP THE TORCH--- OR SAVE THE LIZARD!
NEXT
FRIEND OR FOE?
20

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
IN THE BLAZE OF BATTLE!
AS WE SAW LAST ISH, JUST AS SPIDEY WAS ABOUT TO TRAP THE DEADLY LIZARD, HE WAS INTERRUPTED BY THE HUMAN TORCH, WHO UNWITTINGLY RUINED OUR HERO'S PLAN! AND NOW, LET'S GIRD FOR ACTION...!
MAYBE YOU CAN STOP OL' WEBHEAD, MISTER...
BUT YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR JOHNNY STORM!
DON'T DO IT, TORCH! WAIT! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...!
PRODUCED BY... STAN LEE, AUTHOR... JOHN BUSCEMA, INNOVATOR JIM MOONEY, ADAPTOR... SAM ROSEN, LETTERER
AND... JOHN ROMITA, CONSULTANT EMERITUS IN RESIDENCE.

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LISTEN TO ME, HOT STUFF! IT'S A PRIVATE FIGHT BETWEEN THE LIZARD AND ME!
I CAN TAKE HIM! YOU'VE GOT TO LET ME DO IT ALONE!
I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP ... BUT YOU'LL ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE!
A PRIVATE FIGHT? WITH THE CITY PRACTICALLY UNDER MARTIAL LAW BECAUSE OF THAT CRAWLIN' CREEP?
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDIN', FELLA!
BUT ANY-WAY... START TALKING! I MIGHT AS WELL HEAR YOU OUT!
FOOLS! WHAT DOES IT MATTER WHETHER I FIGHT YOU SEPARATELY... OR TOGETHER?
NO SINGLE POWER... NO COMBINATION OF FOES.. CAN HOPE TO MATCH THE LIZARD'S STRENGTH!
SKPAK!
TORCH... LOOK OUT!
I'M WAY AHEAD OF YOU, SON!
I'LL MELT THAT GRANITE INTO SOUP BEFORE IT CAN GET NEAR ME!
2.

AW, COME ON, LIZ!
YOU DON'T THINK YOU'LL GET AWAY FROM ME THAT EASY, DO YOU?
I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A PRIVATE FIGHT, TORCH!
AND I MEANT WHAT I SAID!
ASBESTOS WEBBING?!!
HEY! WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, ANYWAY?
IT'S NOT A MATTER OF TAKING SIDES!
BUT I HAVE TO DO IT MY WAY!
I WANT HIM STOPPED AS MUCH AS YOU DO!
WHAT'S THE BIT, MASKED MAN? NOBODY'S KEEPING SCORE!
I CAN'T TELL HIM THAT I PROMISED DR. CONNOR'S WIFE THAT NO HARM WOULD COME TO HIM!
IT MIGHT MAKE HIM SUSPECT THE LIZARD'S TRUE IDENTITY!
--TO SAY NOTHING OF MY OWN!
3

THEY NEVER THOUGHT I'D DOUBLE BACK SO SOON!
LOOK, TORCH... YOU'VE JUST GOT TO TRUST ME!
I--I CAN'T EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW!
TRUST YOU? I'D TRUST YOU ABOUT AS FAR AS I COULD THROW...
HEY! LOOK OUT!
UNHHH! EVEN I FELT THAT...CLEAN OVER HERE!
YOU DON'T THINK THIS ASBESTOS WEBBING IS GONNA STOP ME FROM TURNING ON THE HEAT AGAIN, DO YOU?
NOW SAY UNCLE, GRUESOME...
'CAUSE IF I MAKE IT ANY HOTTER, EVEN THAT SCALY HIDE OF YOURS WON'T SAVE YOU!
TORCH! I'M TELLING YOU FOR THE LAST TIME... CUT OUT OF HERE!
ALL YOU'RE GONNA DO IS MAKE THINGS WORSE!
AND I'M TELLING YOU, MISTER...I'VE NEVER RUN FROM A FIGHT BEFORE...
AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO START NOW!
4

AND, IF YOU THINK THIS CRUMMY WEBBING OF YOURS CAN HOLD ME FOREVER...
FORGET IT!
THERE'S NO ASBESTOS MADE THAT CAN WITHSTAND MY SUB-NOVA HEAT!
WHIZZT!

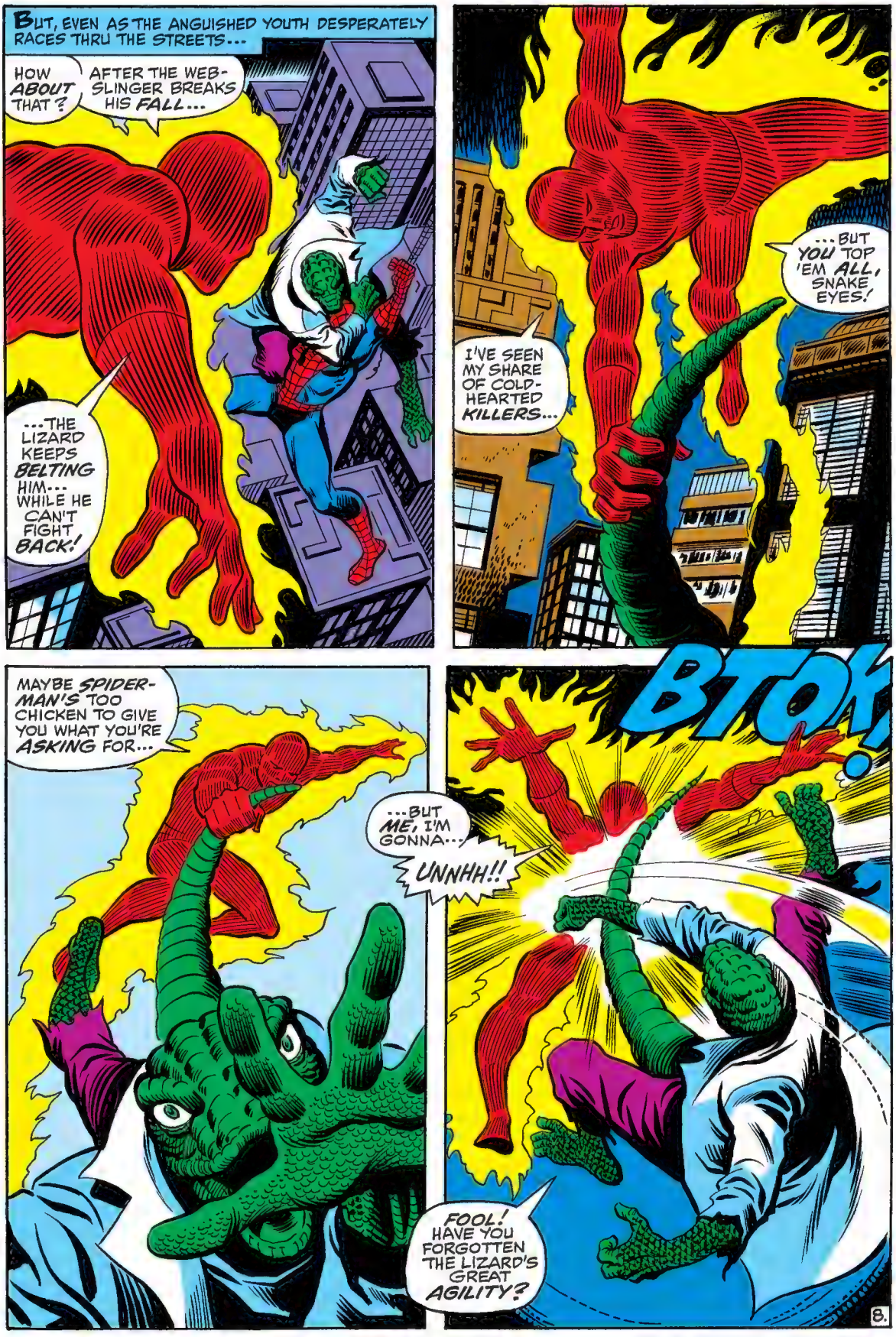
BIG DEAL, MATCH-HEAD!
WHILE YOU KEPT US MAKING SPEECHES, THE LIZARD MANAGED TO GET AWAY!
DON'T LOSE ANY SLEEP OVER IT!
NO MATTER HOW TRICKY HE IS...NO ONE CAN CRAWL FASTER THAN I CAN FLY!

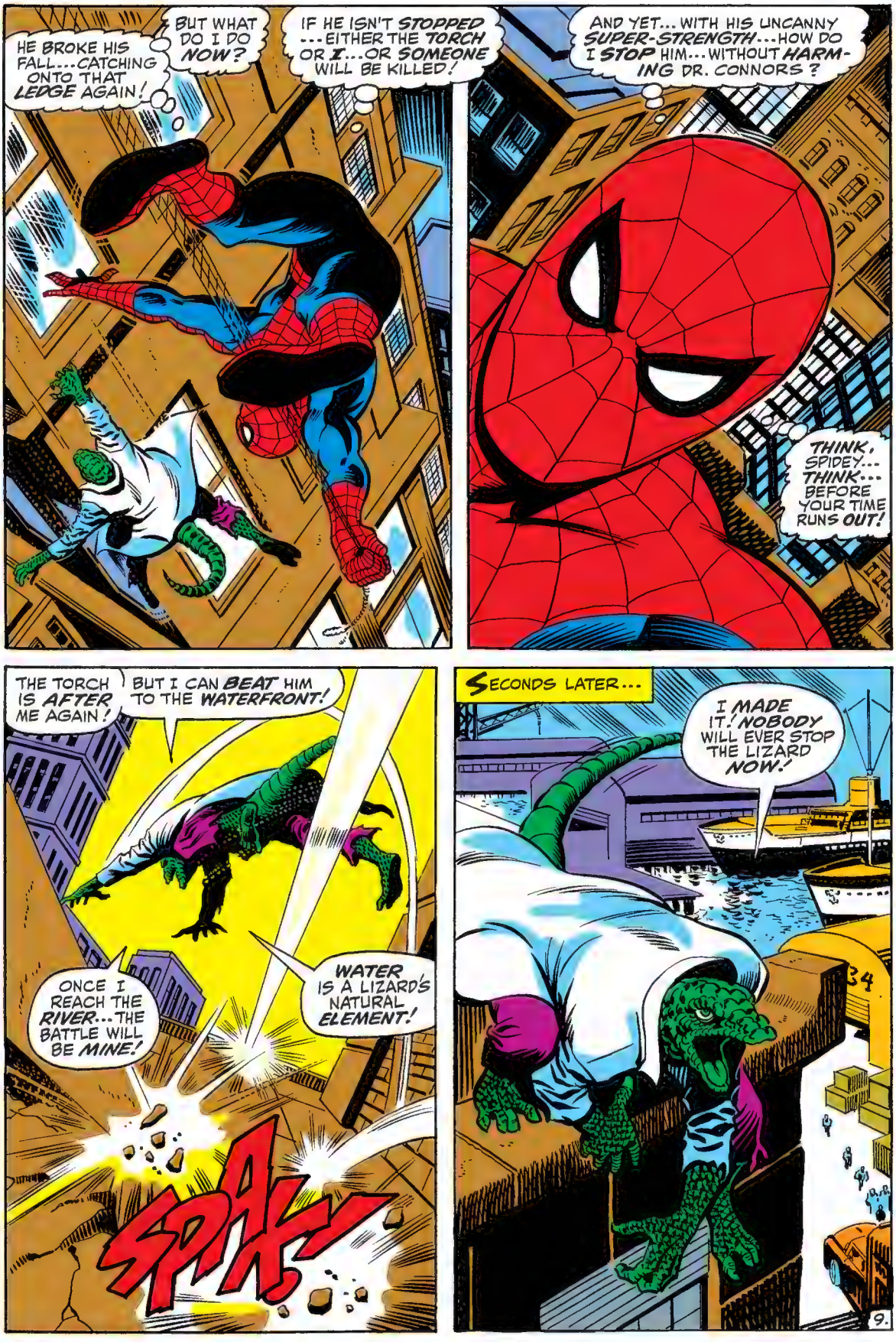
AND, IF YOU THINK I'M WHISTLIN' DIXIE...
...THEN JUST WATCH THIS..!

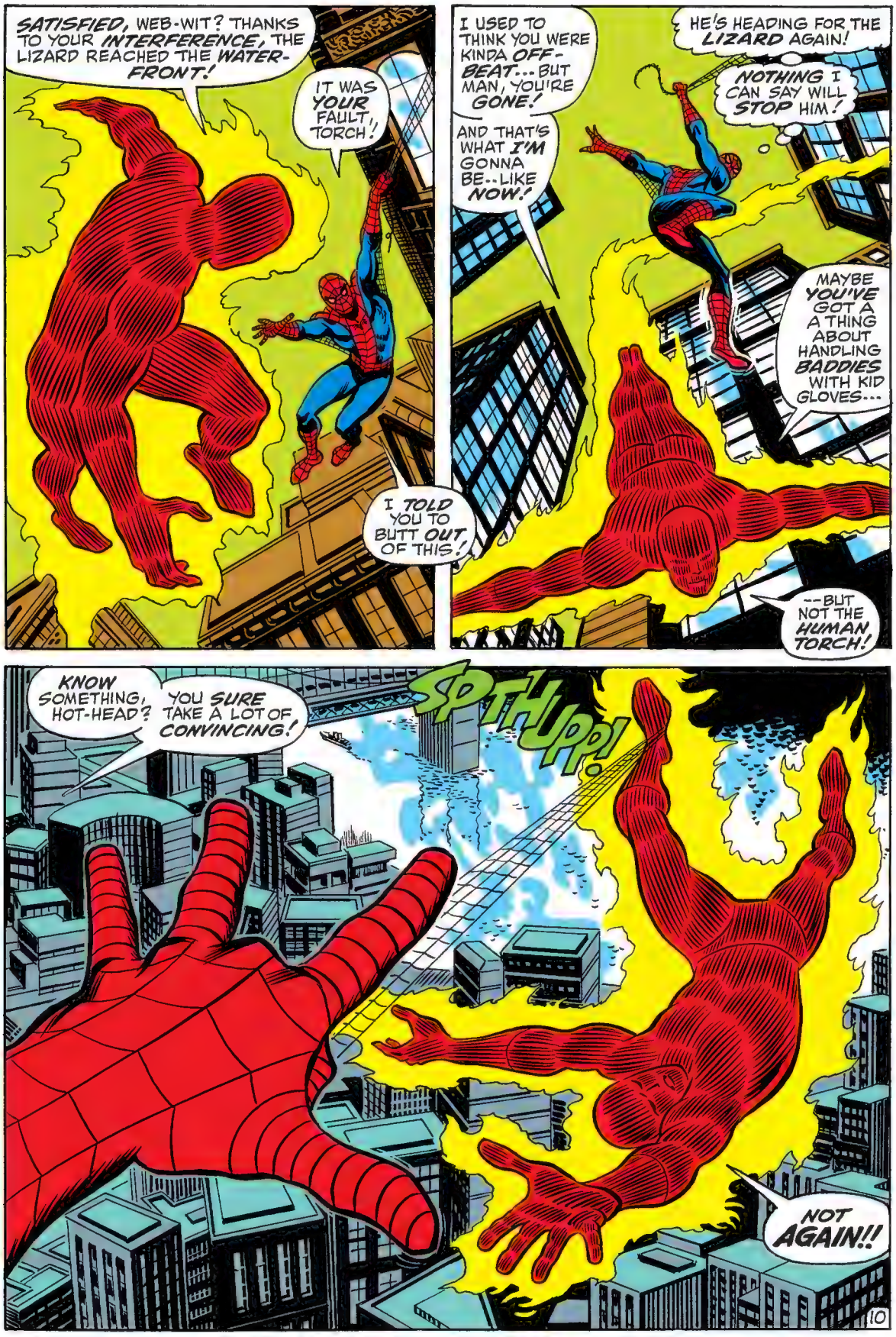
THIS TIME THAT WALL-CRAWLER WON'T HELP YOU...NO MATTER WHAT!
5

ZASSK!
STAY THERE, LIZ!
I'M COMING TO GET YOU!
YOU'LL NEVER GET THE LIZARD!
ZALT!
VURRAK!
HAH! THAT'S IT... RUN FOR COVER!
YOU DIDN'T EXPECT ME TO HURL CHUNKS OF CEMENT WITH ONE SWING OF MY TAIL!
BUT, THE THIN LEDGE UPON WHICH HE STANDS SUDDENLY CRUMBLES FROM THE FORCE OF HIS BLOW...
...HURLING THE LIZARD DOWNWARD...TO THE PAVEMENT FAR BELOW!
CAN'T LET HIM DIE! CAN'T LET DOC CONNORS COME TO SUCH AN END!
NOW...IF ONLY THE TORCH WON'T INTERFERE!
THWIPPP!
6.

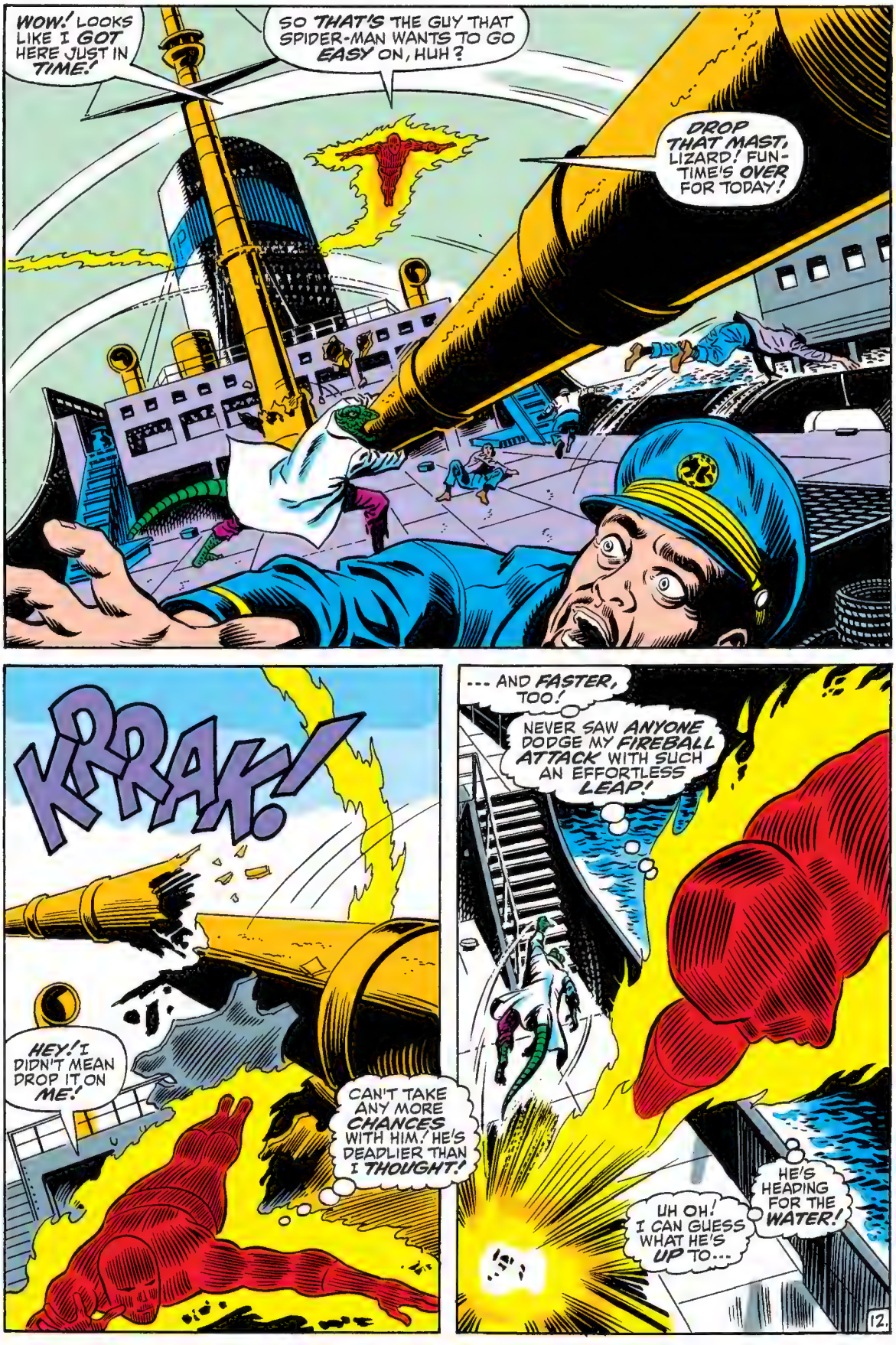
AT THAT MOMENT, IN A MIDTOWN HOTEL ROOM...
...WE INTERRUPT THIS BROADCAST TO ANNOUNCE THAT SPIDER-MAN AND THE LIZARD HAVE BEEN OBSERVED BATTLING AMONG THE ROOFTOPS NORTH OF THE GRAMERCY PARK AREA
IT'S JUST BEEN REPORTED THAT THE HUMAN TORCH HAS ALSO JOINED THE ATTACK UPON THE LIZARD...!
OH, NO! NOW SPIDER-MAN WON'T BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR FATHER... EVEN IF HE TRIES!
GOSH, MOM... WHY WOULD THE TORCH WANT TO HURT DAD?
DON'T YOU SEE, DEAR... HE DOESN'T KNOW!
NOBODY... EXCEPT SPIDER-MAN AND OURSELVES... KNOWS THAT THE LIZARD IS REALLY DR. CURT CONNORS!
THEN... THE TORCH MAY TRY TO KILL HIM!
HE MAY TRY TO KILL... MY OWN FATHER!
HE'S LEAVING... RUNNING AWAY TO HIDE HIS TEARS!
--EXCEPT PRAY THAT SPIDER-MAN WON'T FAIL US!
IT'S JUST AS WELL! THERE'S NOTHING HE CAN DO... NOTHING ANYONE CAN DO...
I CAN'T STAY UP THERE... IN THE ROOM WITH MOM... WHILE DAD MAY NEED ME!
MAYBE... IF I FIND HIM... THERE'LL BE SOMETHING I CAN DO!
I DON'T CARE IF HE IS THE LIZARD ...I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ...EXCEPT... HE'S MY FATHER! HE'S MY FATHER!
7


BUT, EVEN AS THE ANGUISHED YOUTH DESPERATELY RACES THRU THE STREETS...
HOW ABOUT THAT?
AFTER THE WEB-SLINGER BREAKS HIS FALL...
...THE LIZARD KEEPS BELTING HIM... WHILE HE CAN'T FIGHT BACK!
I'VE SEEN MY SHARE OF COLD-HEARTED KILLERS...
...BUT YOU TOP 'EM ALL, SNAKE EYES!
MAYBE SPIDER-MAN'S TOO CHICKEN TO GIVE YOU WHAT YOU'RE ASKING FOR...
...BUT ME, I'M GONNA...
UNNHH!!
BTOK!
FOOL! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE LIZARD'S GREAT AGILITY?
8.

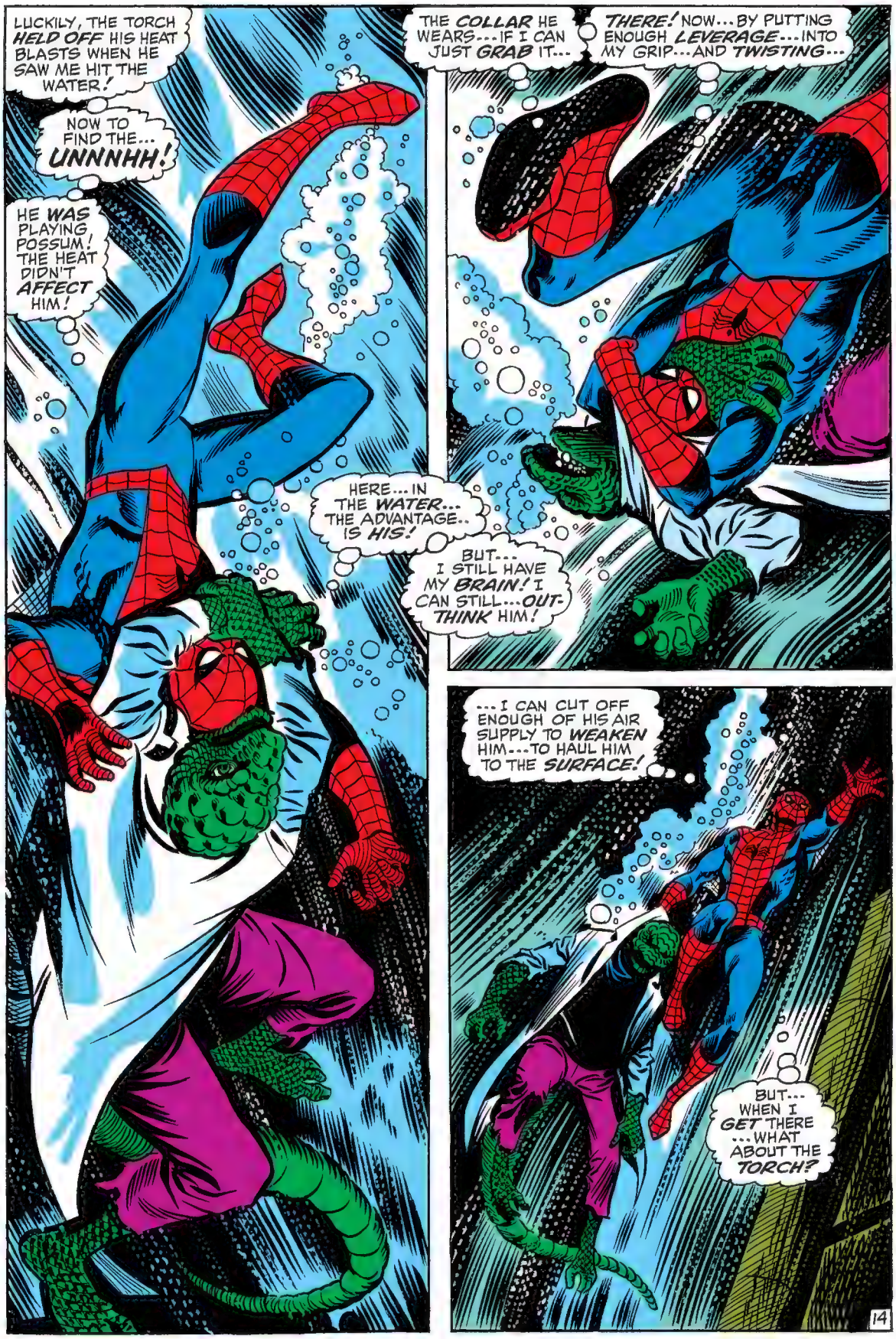

HE BROKE HIS FALL...CATCHING ONTO THAT LEDGE AGAIN!
BUT WHAT DO I DO NOW?
IF HE ISN'T STOPPED ---EITHER THE TORCH OR I...OR SOMEONE WILL BE KILLED!
AND YET... WITH HIS UNCANNY SUPER-STRENGTH---HOW DO I STOP HIM... WITHOUT HARMING DR. CONNORS?
THINK, SPIDEY... THINK... BEFORE YOUR TIME RUNS OUT!
THE TORCH IS AFTER ME AGAIN!
BUT I CAN BEAT HIM TO THE WATERFRONT!
ONCE I REACH THE RIVER... THE BATTLE WILL BE MINE!
WATER IS A LIZARD'S NATURAL ELEMENT!
SPAK
SECONDS LATER...
I MADE IT! NOBODY WILL EVER STOP THE LIZARD NOW!
34
9.


SATISFIED, WEB-WIT? THANKS TO YOUR INTERFERENCE, THE LIZARD REACHED THE WATER-FRONT!
IT WAS YOUR FAULT, TORCH!
I TOLD YOU TO BUTT OUT OF THIS!
I USED TO THINK YOU WERE KINDA OFF-BEAT... BUT MAN, YOU'RE GONE!
AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA BE--LIKE NOW!
HE'S HEADING FOR THE LIZARD AGAIN!
NOTHING I CAN SAY WILL STOP HIM!
MAYBE YOU'VE GOT A A THING ABOUT HANDLING BADDIES WITH KID GLOVES...
--BUT NOT THE HUMAN TORCH!
KNOW SOMETHING, HOT-HEAD? YOU SURE TAKE A LOT OF CONVINCING!
SPTHUPP!
NOT AGAIN!!

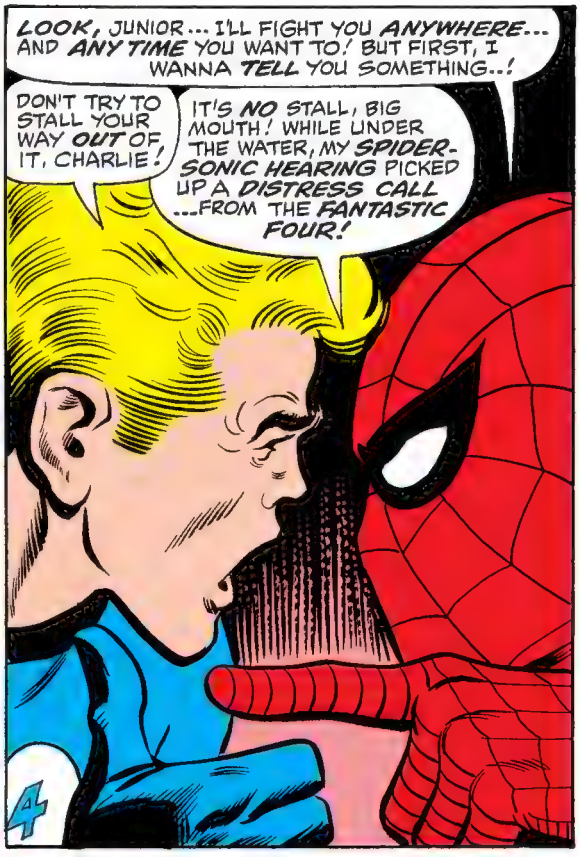
ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN, YOU CREEP!
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK THIS'LL HOLD ME?
LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO REACH THE LIZARD FIRST!
SOMETHING THE LIZARD SAID BEFORE... ABOUT WATER BEING HIS NATURAL ELEMENT ...GAVE ME AN IDEA!
EVERYTHING DEPENDS UPON ME GETTING HIM ALONE...
AND THAT MEANS KEEPING THE TORCH OUT OF MY HAIR...SOMEHOW!
...AND THEN FINDING WHAT I NEED IN ONE OF THE WAREHOUSES BELOW!
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING ON THAT SHIP DOWN THERE!
IT'S THE LIZARD AGAIN!
BUT THERE GOES THE TORCH... HEADING STRAIGHT FOR HIM!
HE MEANT WHAT HE SAID ABOUT MY WEBBING NOT HOLDING HIM!
FACE IT, SPIDEY! YOU'RE REALLY IN THE SOUP NOW!
11.

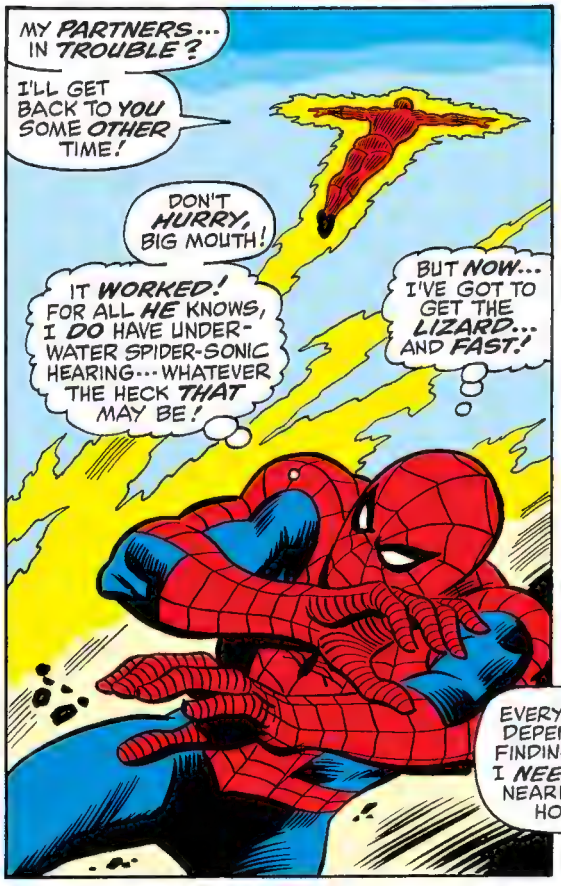

WOW! LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!
SO THAT'S THE GUY THAT SPIDER-MAN WANTS TO GO EASY ON, HUH?
DROP THAT MAST, LIZARD! FUN-TIME'S OVER FOR TODAY!
KRRAK!
HEY! I DIDN'T MEAN DROP IT ON ME!
CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE CHANCES WITH HIM! HE'S DEADLIER THAN I THOUGHT!
--- AND FASTER, TOO!
NEVER SAW ANYONE DODGE MY FIREBALL ATTACK WITH SUCH AN EFFORTLESS LEAP!
UH OH! I CAN GUESS WHAT HE'S UP TO---
HE'S HEADING FOR THE WATER!

BUT I CAN STILL GET 'IM!
--IF I STRIKE BEFORE HE DIVES TOO DEEP!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BOIL THE SURFACE OF THE WATER---
---USING MODIFIED SHORT-BURST THERMAL BLASTS!
BUT, AT THAT MOMENT---
I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!
HE MAY BE PLAYING POSSUM... BUT I HAVE TO CHANCE IT!
13.

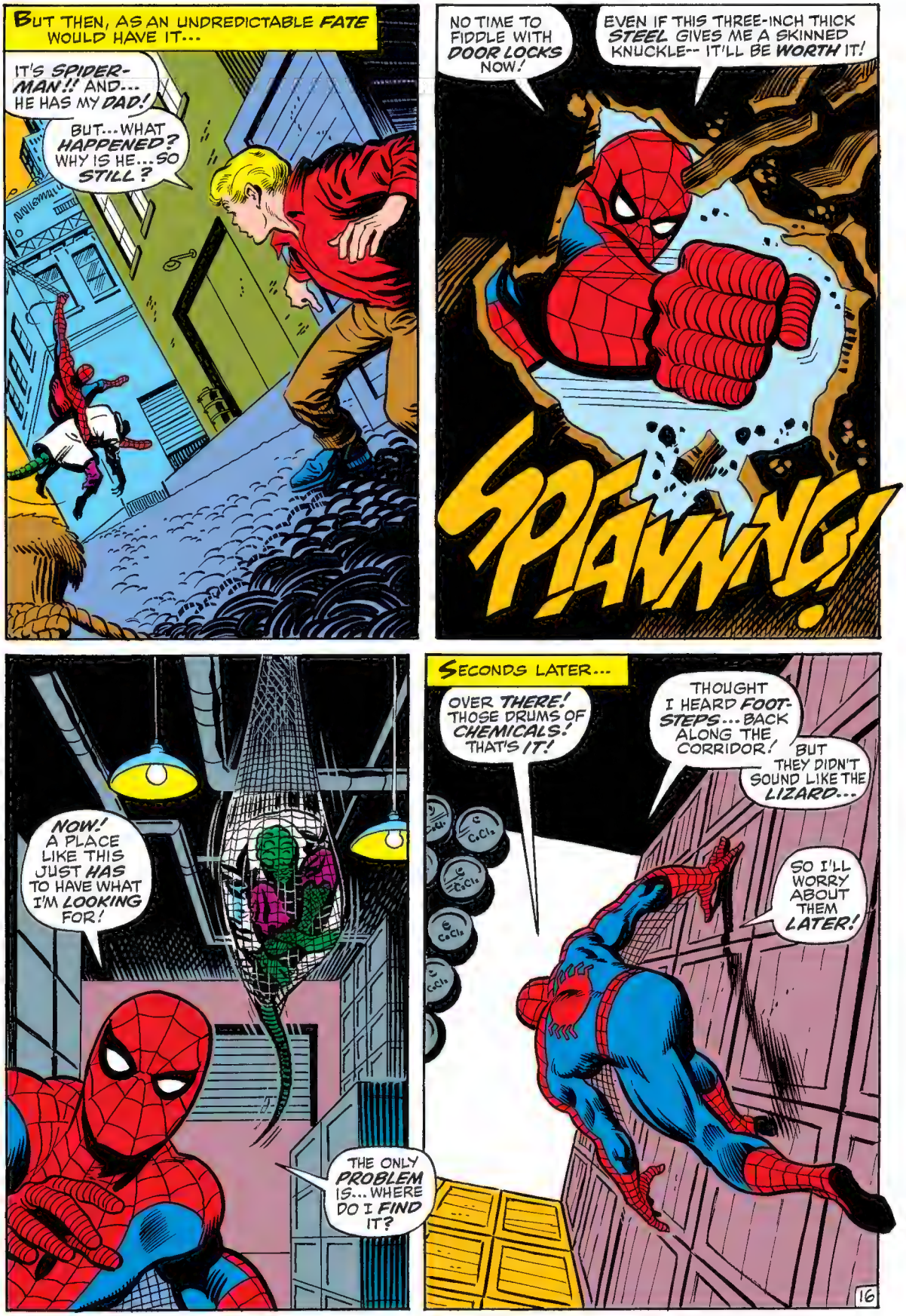

LUCKILY, THE TORCH HELD OFF HIS HEAT BLASTS WHEN HE SAW ME HIT THE WATER!
NOW TO FIND THE... UNNNHH!
HE WAS PLAYING POSSUM! THE HEAT DIDN'T AFFECT HIM!
HERE... IN THE WATER... THE ADVANTAGE.. IS HIS!
BUT... I STILL HAVE MY BRAIN! I CAN STILL... OUT-THINK HIM!
THE COLLAR HE WEARS... IF I CAN JUST GRAB IT...
THERE! NOW... BY PUTTING ENOUGH LEVERAGE... INTO MY GRIP... AND TWISTING...
...I CAN CUT OFF ENOUGH OF HIS AIR SUPPLY TO WEAKEN HIM... TO HAUL HIM TO THE SURFACE!
BUT... WHEN I GET THERE ...WHAT ABOUT THE TORCH?
14

THERE HE IS... JUST AS I KNEW HE'D BE!
BUT I MUST GET RID OF HIM... I MUST!
NOW, WEB-HEAD, YOU AND I HAVE A LITTLE SCORE TO SETTLE!
I'VE ONE ACE-IN-THE-HOLE! HE DOESN'T KNOW THE EXTENT OF MY POWERS!


LOOK, JUNIOR... I'LL FIGHT YOU ANYWHERE... AND ANY TIME YOU WANT TO! BUT FIRST, I WANNA TELL YOU SOMETHING..!
DON'T TRY TO STALL YOUR WAY OUT OF IT, CHARLIE!
IT'S NO STALL, BIG MOUTH! WHILE UNDER THE WATER, MY SPIDER-SONIC HEARING PICKED UP A DISTRESS CALL ...FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR!

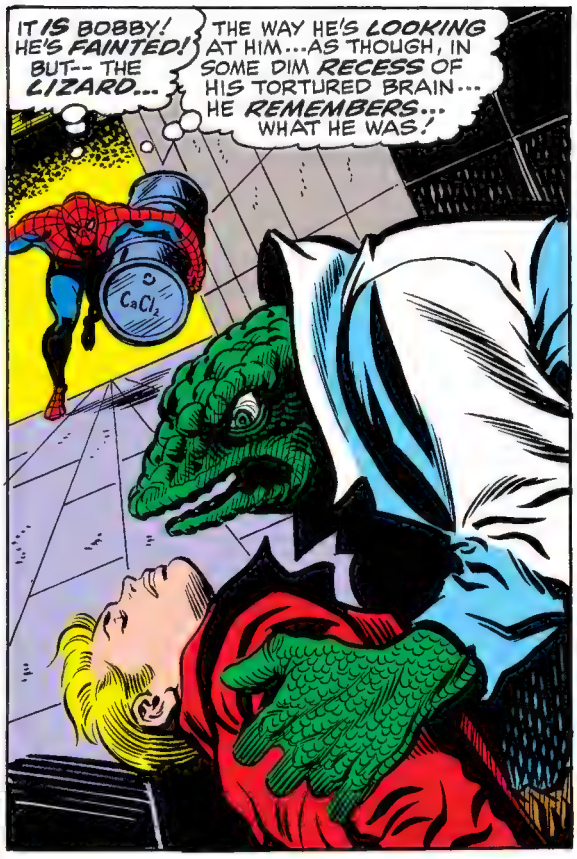

MY PARTNERS... IN TROUBLE?
I'LL GET BACK TO YOU SOME OTHER TIME!
DON'T HURRY, BIG MOUTH!
IT WORKED! FOR ALL HE KNOWS, I DO HAVE UNDER-WATER SPIDER-SONIC HEARING... WHATEVER THE HECK THAT MAY BE!
BUT NOW... I'VE GOT TO GET THE LIZARD... AND FAST!

EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON FINDING WHAT I NEED IN A NEARBY WARE-HOUSE!
...AND HOPING I CAN DO IT BEFORE HE COMES TO AGAIN!

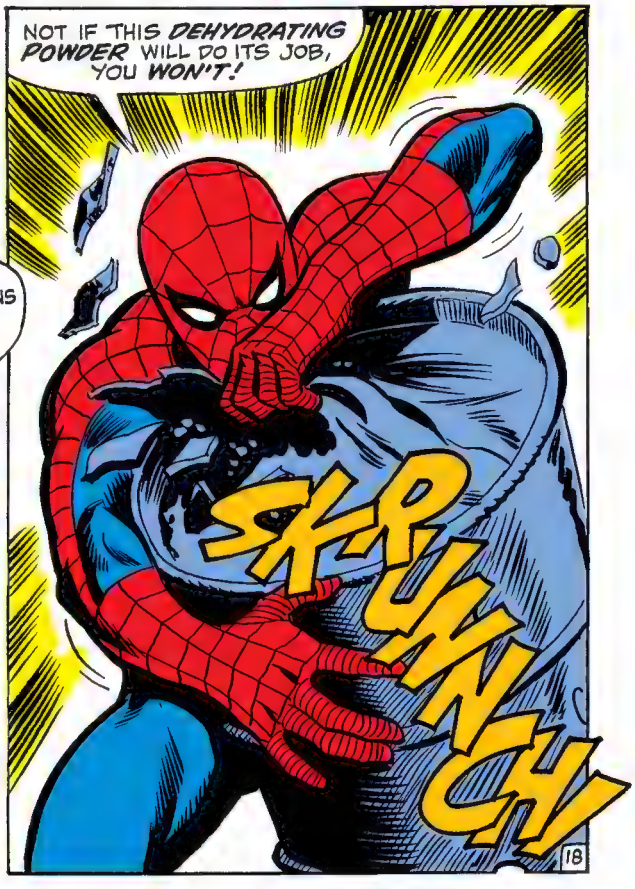

BUT THEN, AS AN UNDREDICTABLE FATE WOULD HAVE IT...
IT'S SPIDER-MAN!! AND... HE HAS MY DAD!
BUT...WHAT HAPPENED? WHY IS HE...SO STILL?
NO TIME TO FIDDLE WITH DOOR LOCKS NOW!
EVEN IF THIS THREE-INCH THICK STEEL GIVES ME A SKINNED KNUCKLE-- IT'LL BE WORTH IT!
SPLANG!
NOW! A PLACE LIKE THIS JUST HAS TO HAVE WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS... WHERE DO I FIND IT?
SECONDS LATER...
OVER THERE! THOSE DRUMS OF CHEMICALS! THAT'S IT!
THOUGHT I HEARD FOOT-STEPS... BACK ALONG THE CORRIDOR!
BUT THEY DIDN'T SOUND LIKE THE LIZARD...
SO I'LL WORRY ABOUT THEM LATER!
16

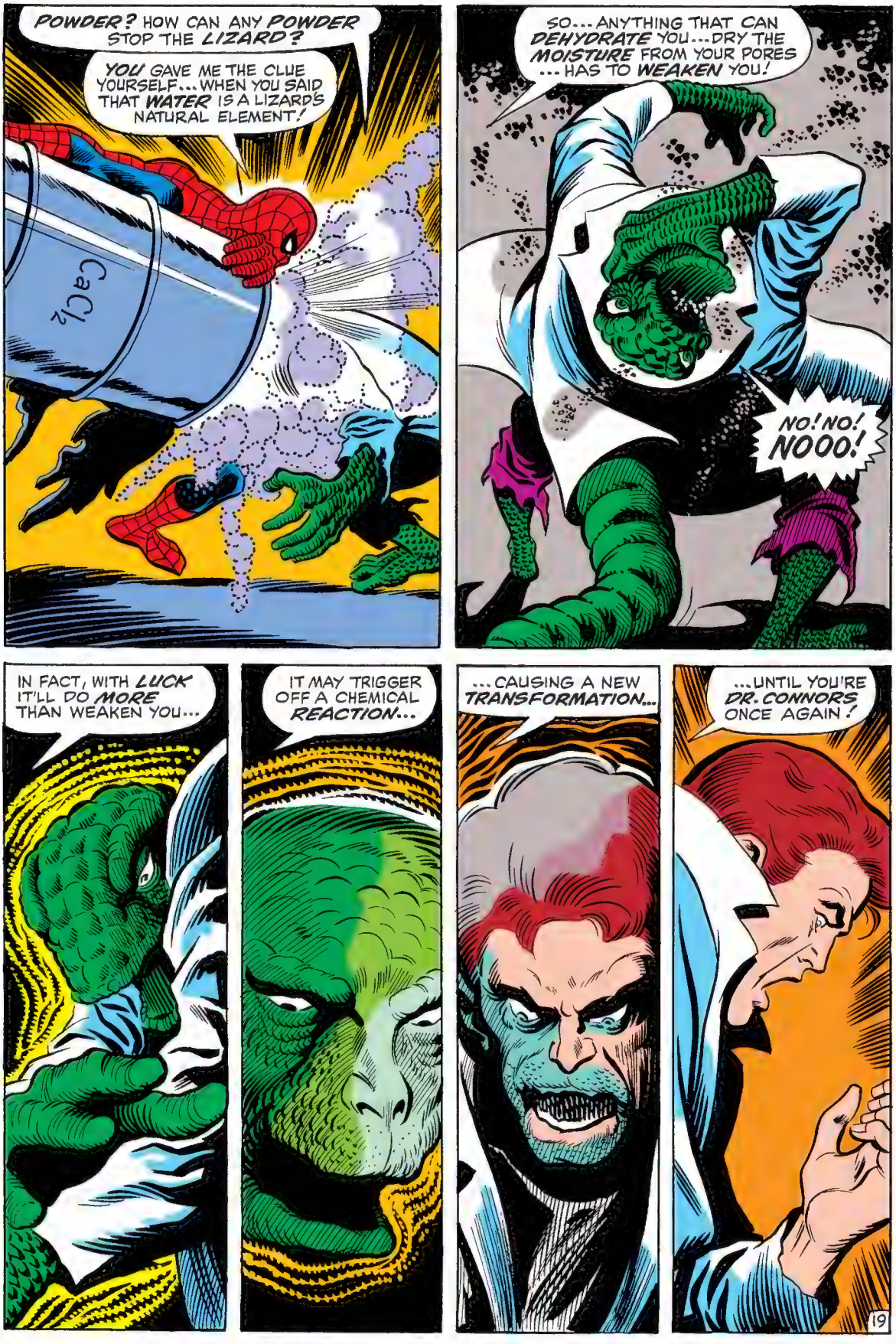
HOWEVER, OUR WEARY WEB-SPINNER MIGHT BE MORE INCLINED TO WORRY NOW... IF HE KNEW WHO THE FOOTSTEPS BELONGED TO...
I'VE GOT TO FIND THEM!
...GOT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DAD!
MAYBE THEY BOTH NEED SOME HELP!
I..I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING ...UP ABOVE ME!
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN DO!
SO! HE THOUGHT HIS PUNY WEBBING COULD HOLD THE LIZARD!
HE'LL PAY WITH HIS LIFE FOR THAT MISTAKE!
DAD!
YOU...MUST BE... A FRIEND OF HIS!!
17.

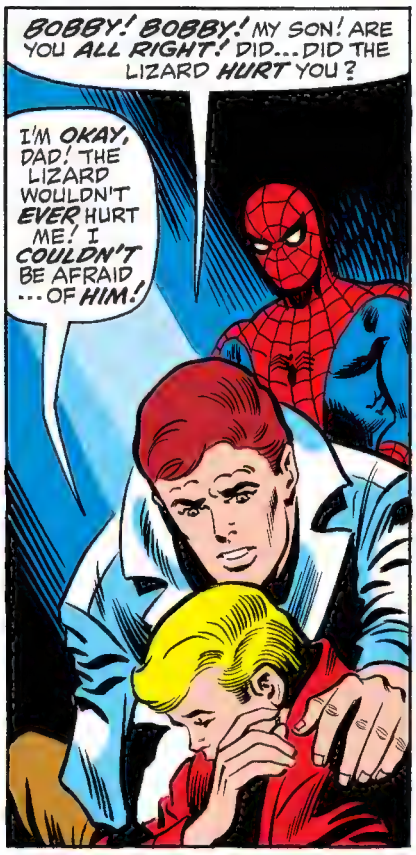
SPIDER-MAN!! HELP!
THAT SOUNDED LIKE... BOBBY CONNORS!
IF HE'S HERE... AND THE LIZARD HAS BROKEN FREE..!!
$CaCl_2$


IT IS BOBBY! HE'S FAINTED! BUT-- THE LIZARD...
THE WAY HE'S LOOKING AT HIM...AS THOUGH, IN SOME DIM RECESS OF HIS TORTURED BRAIN... HE REMEMBERS... WHAT HE WAS!
$CaCl_2$

SPIDER-MAN! NOW I HAVE YOU! NOW YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE ME!
I'VE SURVIVED YOUR ATTACK... SMASHED THRU YOUR WEBBING--
NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS ...IS TO CRUSH YOU!


NOT IF THIS DEHYDRATING POWDER WILL DO ITS JOB, YOU WON'T!
SK-RUNCH!
18

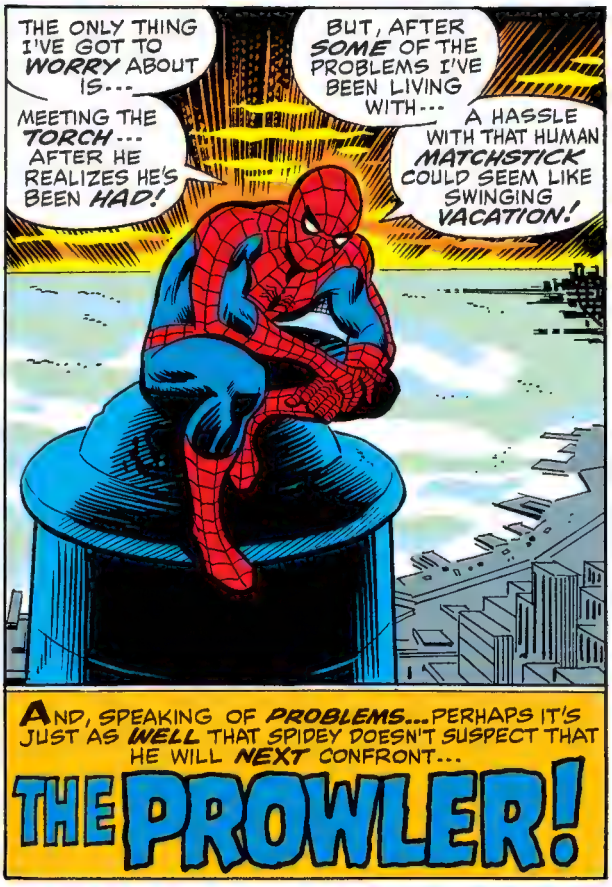

POWDER? HOW CAN ANY POWDER STOP THE LIZARD?
YOU GAVE ME THE CLUE YOURSELF... WHEN YOU SAID THAT WATER IS A LIZARD'S NATURAL ELEMENT!
CaCl2
SO... ANYTHING THAT CAN DEHYDRATE YOU... DRY THE MOISTURE FROM YOUR PORES ... HAS TO WEAKEN YOU!
NO! NO! NOOO!
IN FACT, WITH LUCK IT'LL DO MORE THAN WEAKEN YOU...
IT MAY TRIGGER OFF A CHEMICAL REACTION...
... CAUSING A NEW TRANSFORMATION...
... UNTIL YOU'RE DR. CONNORS ONCE AGAIN!

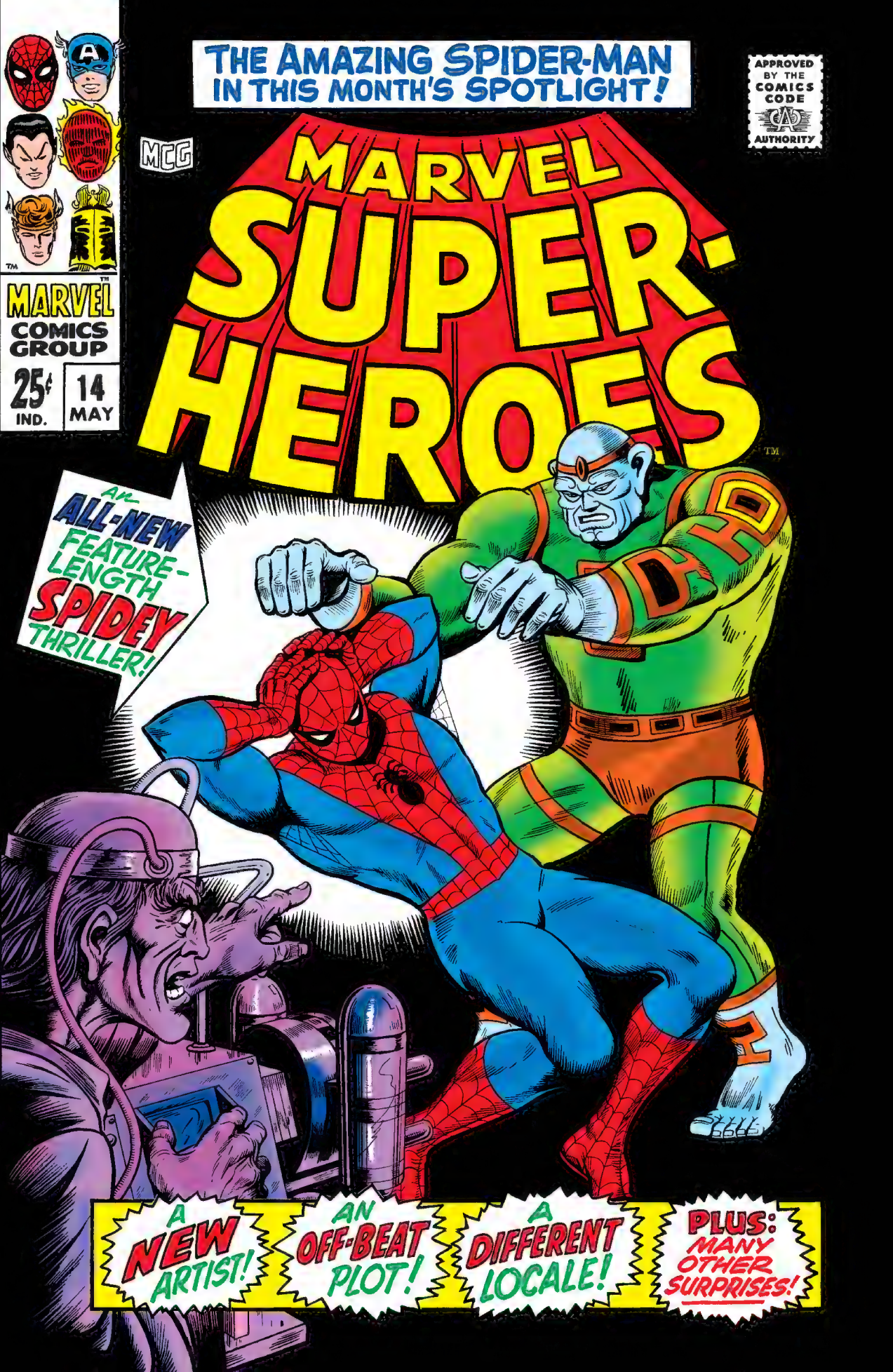

BOBBY! BOBBY! MY SON! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT! DID... DID THE LIZARD HURT YOU?
I'M OKAY, DAD! THE LIZARD WOULDN'T EVER HURT ME! I COULDN'T BE AFRAID ...OF HIM!

SINCE WE'RE KNOWN FOR ESCHEWING MAUDLIN SENTIMENTALITY, LET'S SKIP THE MUSHY PART, AND GET RIGHT TO THE WRAP-UP... A COUPLE HOURS LATER...
SPIDER-MAN..HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU?
WE SEEM TO BE ALWAYS ASKING YOU THAT QUESTION!
CAREFUL! ONE DAY I'LL COME UP WITH AN ANSWER!

BUT, TILL THEN... JUST KEEP THY WEBS UNTANGLED!

MAN! IF THERE'S ONE THING I LIKE, IT'S A HAPPY ENDING!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE I'M THE SAME OLD HARD-LUCK WEB-SPINNER!


THE ONLY THING I'VE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT IS...
MEETING THE TORCH... AFTER HE REALIZES HE'S BEEN HAD!
BUT, AFTER SOME OF THE PROBLEMS I'VE BEEN LIVING WITH...
A HASSLE WITH THAT HUMAN MATCHSTICK COULD SEEM LIKE SWINGING VACATION!
AND, SPEAKING OF PROBLEMS... PERHAPS IT'S JUST AS WELL THAT SPIDEY DOESN'T SUSPECT THAT HE WILL NEXT CONFRONT...
THE PROWLER!


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IN THIS MONTH'S SPOTLIGHT!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
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An ALL-NEW FEATURE-LENGTH SPIDEY THRILLER!
A NEW ARTIST!
AN OFF-BEAT PLOT!
A DIFFERENT LOCALE!
PLUS: MANY OTHER SURPRISES!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
"The REPREHENSIBLE RIDDLE of... The SORCERER!"
ALSO FEATURING: THE SPINE-CHILLING SYNTHETIC MAN!
WHEN JAZZY JOHNNY SPRAINED HIS WRIST, OUR OLD PAL ROSS ANDRU CAME TO THE RESCUE WITH THIS REPLACEMENT SPIDEY YARN! BUT THEN JOHNNY MADE HIS DEADLINE AFTER ALL! SINCE WE CAN'T BEAR TO LEAVE THIS MIXED-UP LITTLE MASTERPIECE SLUMBERING ON THE SHELF, HERE IT IS, PILGRIM--A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TREAT FOR YOU--!
CUNNINGLY CONCOCTED BY:
SMILIN' STAN LEE and RIOTOUS ROSS ANDRU
EMBELLISHED BY: WILD BILL EVERETT
LETTERED BY: SWINGIN' SAM ROSEN
WITCHCRAFT BY: FORBUSH FETISHES, Inc.

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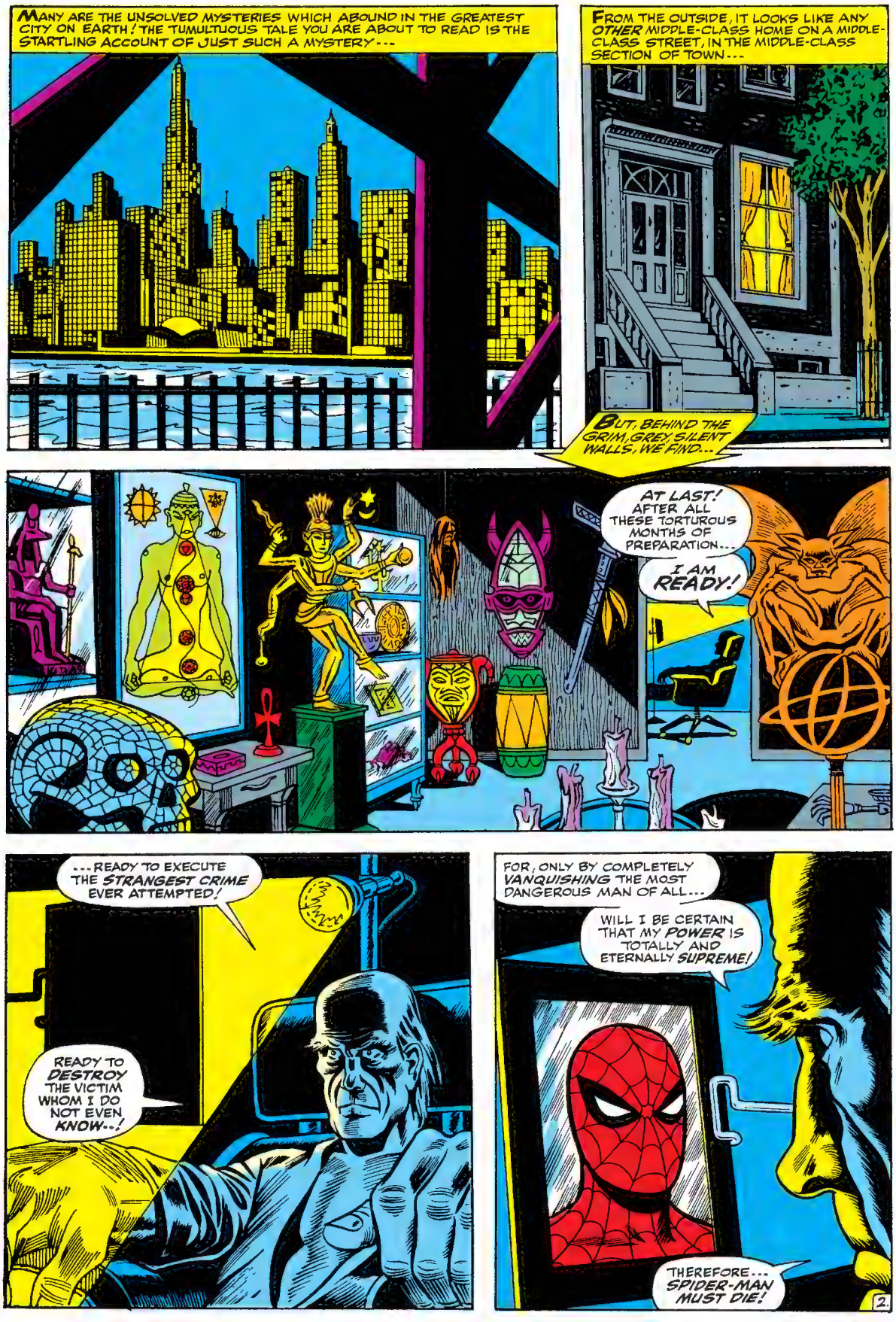
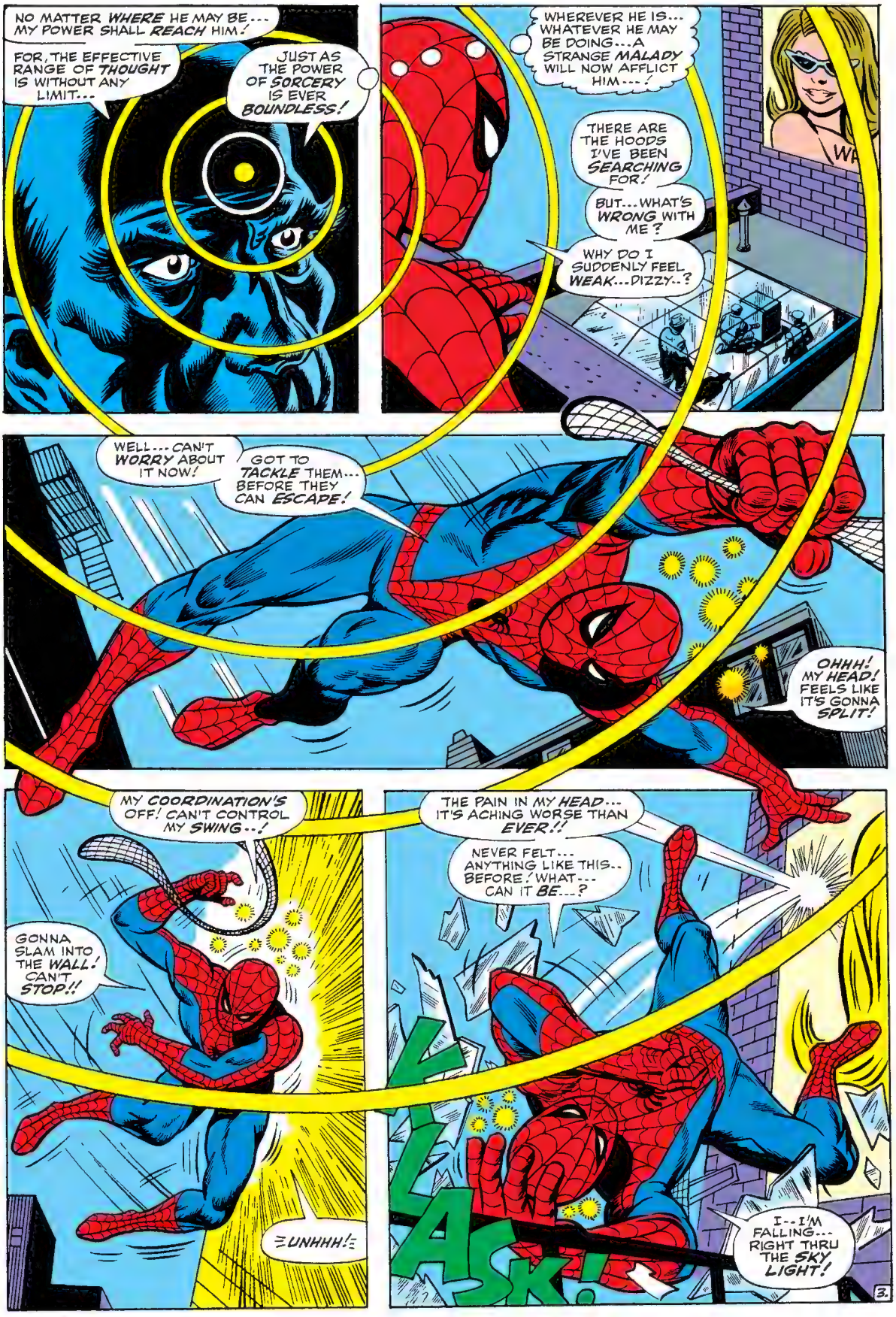
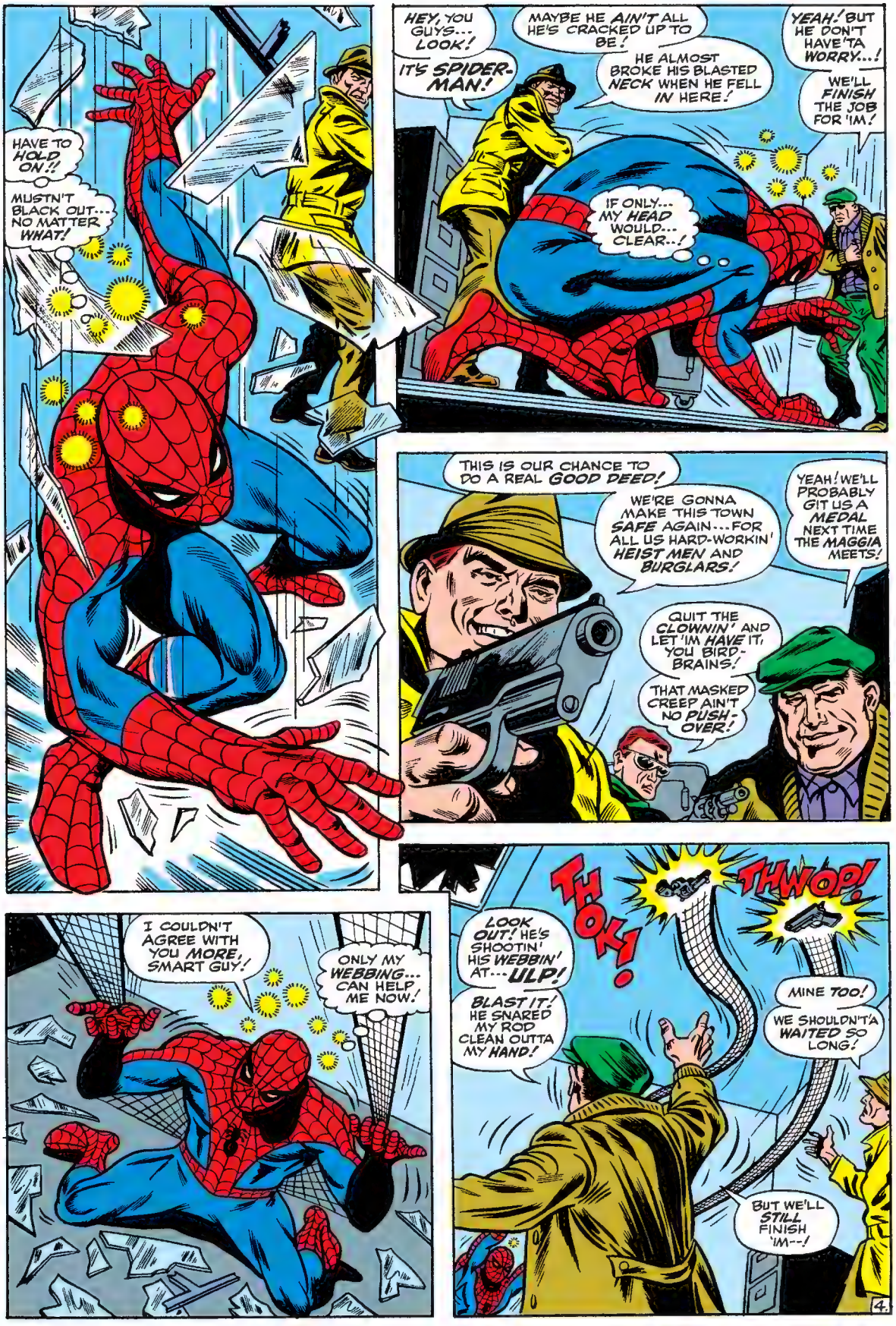
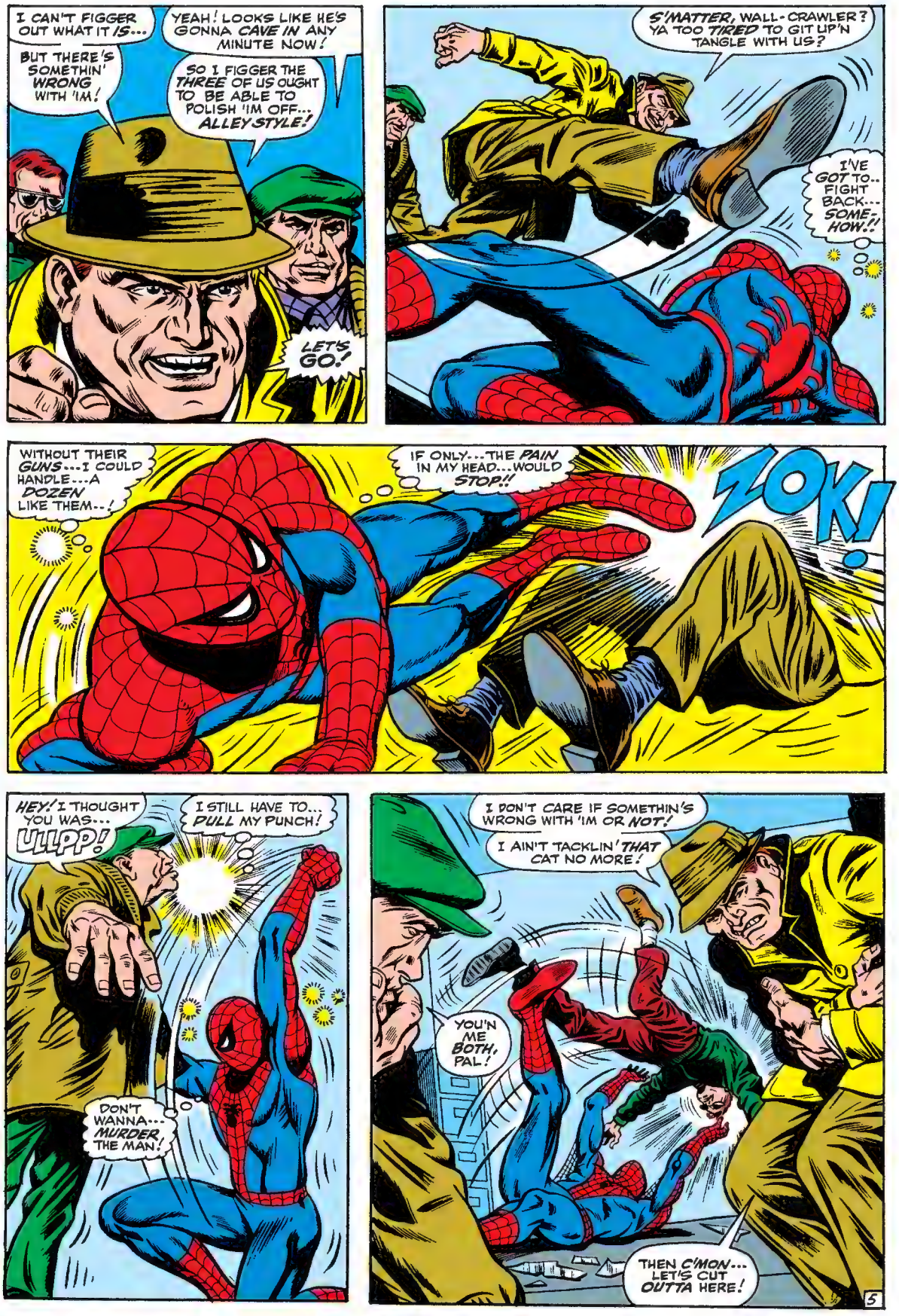
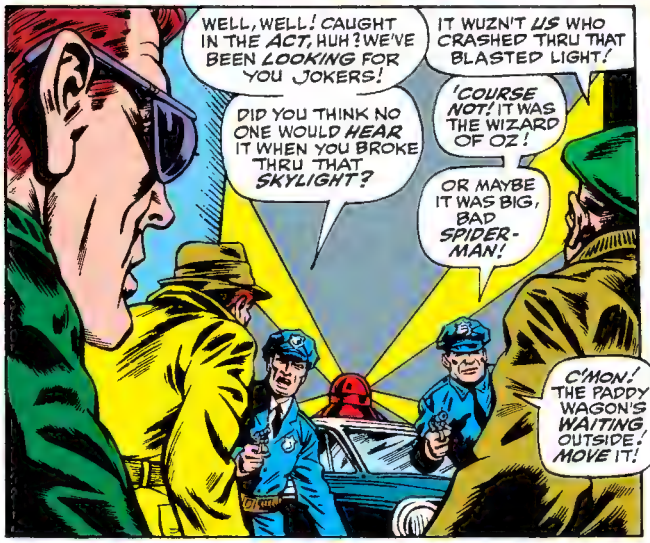

MANY ARE THE UNSOLVED MYSTERIES WHICH ABOUND IN THE GREATEST CITY ON EARTH! THE TUMULTUOUS TALE YOU ARE ABOUT TO READ IS THE STARTLING ACCOUNT OF JUST SUCH A MYSTERY---
FROM THE OUTSIDE, IT LOOKS LIKE ANY OTHER MIDDLE-CLASS HOME ON A MIDDLE-CLASS STREET, IN THE MIDDLE-CLASS SECTION OF TOWN---
BUT, BEHIND THE GRIM, GREY, SILENT WALLS, WE FIND...
AT LAST! AFTER ALL THESE TORTUROUS MONTHS OF PREPARATION...
I AM READY!
...READY TO EXECUTE THE STRANGEST CRIME EVER ATTEMPTED!
READY TO DESTROY THE VICTIM WHOM I DO NOT EVEN KNOW--!
FOR, ONLY BY COMPLETELY VANQUISHING THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN OF ALL...
WILL I BE CERTAIN THAT MY POWER IS TOTALLY AND ETERNALLY SUPREME!
THEREFORE... SPIDER-MAN MUST DIE!
2.

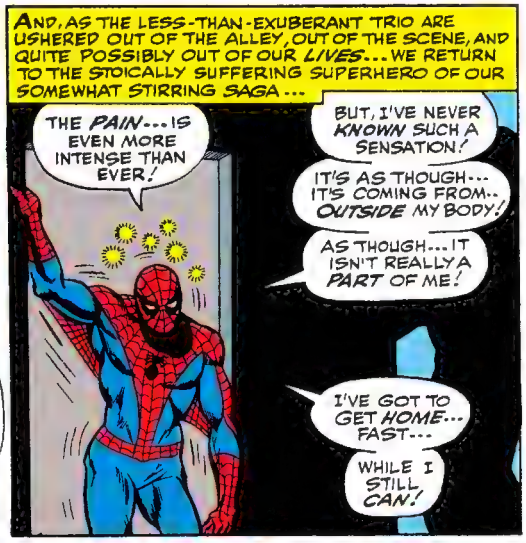

NO MATTER WHERE HE MAY BE... MY POWER SHALL REACH HIM!
FOR, THE EFFECTIVE RANGE OF THOUGHT IS WITHOUT ANY LIMIT...
JUST AS THE POWER OF SORCERY IS EVER BOUNDLESS!
WHEREVER HE IS... WHATEVER HE MAY BE DOING...A STRANGE MALADY WILL NOW AFFLICT HIM...!
THERE ARE THE HOODS I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR!
BUT...WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
WHY DO I SUDDENLY FEEL WEAK...DIZZY..?
WELL... CAN'T WORRY ABOUT IT NOW!
GOT TO TACKLE THEM... BEFORE THEY CAN ESCAPE!
OHHH! MY HEAD! FEELS LIKE IT'S GONNA SPLIT!
MY COORDINATION'S OFF! CAN'T CONTROL MY SWING..!
GONNA SLAM INTO THE WALL! CAN'T STOP!!
=UNHHH!=
THE PAIN IN MY HEAD... IT'S ACHING WORSE THAN EVER!!
NEVER FELT... ANYTHING LIKE THIS.. BEFORE! WHAT... CAN IT BE...?
KLASK!
I--I'M FALLING... RIGHT THRU THE SKY LIGHT!
3.


HAVE TO HOLD ON!!
MUSTN'T BLACK OUT... NO MATTER WHAT!
HEY, YOU GUYS... LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
MAYBE HE AIN'T ALL HE'S CRACKED UP TO BE!
HE ALMOST BROKE HIS BLASTED NECK WHEN HE FELL IN HERE!
YEAH! BUT HE DON'T HAVE 'TA WORRY...!
WE'LL FINISH THE JOB FOR 'IM!
IF ONLY... MY HEAD WOULD... CLEAR..!
THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO DO A REAL GOOD DEED!
WE'RE GONNA MAKE THIS TOWN SAFE AGAIN... FOR ALL US HARD-WORKIN' HEIST MEN AND BURGLARS!
YEAH! WE'LL PROBABLY GIT US A MEDAL NEXT TIME THE MAGGIA MEETS!
QUIT THE CLOWNIN' AND LET 'IM HAVE IT, YOU BIRD-BRAINS!
THAT MASKED CREEP AIN'T NO PUSH-OVER!
I COULDN'T AGREE WITH YOU MORE, SMART GUY!
ONLY MY WEBBING... CAN HELP ME NOW!
THOK!
THWOP!
LOOK OUT! HE'S SHOOTIN' HIS WEBBIN' AT... ULP!
BLAST IT! HE SNARED MY ROD CLEAN OUTTA MY HAND!
MINE TOO!
WE SHOULDN'T'A WAITED SO LONG!
BUT WE'LL STILL FINISH 'IM--!
4


I CAN'T FIGGER OUT WHAT IT IS...
BUT THERE'S SOMETHIN' WRONG WITH 'IM!
YEAH! LOOKS LIKE HE'S GONNA CAVE IN ANY MINUTE NOW!
SO I FIGGER THE THREE OF US OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO POLISH 'IM OFF... ALLEY STYLE!
LET'S GO!
S'MATTER, WALL-CRAWLER? YA TOO TIRED TO GIT UP'N TANGLE WITH US?
I'VE GOT TO.. FIGHT BACK... SOME-HOW!!
WITHOUT THEIR GUNS...I COULD HANDLE...A DOZEN LIKE THEM..!
IF ONLY...THE PAIN IN MY HEAD...WOULD STOP!!
ZOK!
HEY! I THOUGHT YOU WAS... ULLPP!
I STILL HAVE TO... PULL MY PUNCH!
DON'T WANNA... MURDER THE MAN!
I DON'T CARE IF SOMETHIN'S WRONG WITH 'IM OR NOT!
I AIN'T TACKLIN' THAT CAT NO MORE!
YOU'N ME BOTH, PAL!
THEN C'MON... LET'S CUT OUTTA HERE!
5

HOW COME... HE AIN'T... CHASIN' US-??
I DUNNO! BUT DON'T KNOCK IT!
JUST KEEP RUNNIN'!
FOR ONCE... MY LUCK HELD OUT!
IF THEY'D FOUGHT BACK... A LITTLE LONGER... THEY'D HAVE HAD ME! I... CAN HARDLY.. STAND UP!
EVEN GOIN' STRAIGHT HAS TO BE BETTER... THAN THIS!
IF THAT'S HOW HE FIGHTS... WHEN SOMETHIN'S BUGGIN' 'IM..
I NEVER WANNA BE THERE WHEN HE'S BRIGHT-EYED 'N BUSHY-TAILED!
HEY! WHAT'S THAT.. UP AHEAD?

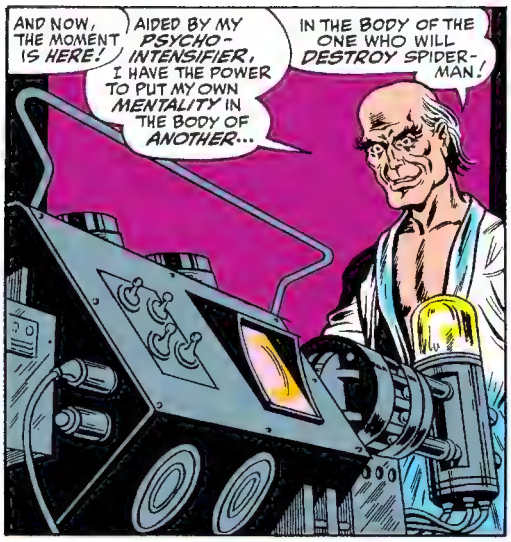

WELL, WELL! CAUGHT IN THE ACT, HUH? WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU JOKERS!
IT WUZN'T US WHO CRASHED THRU THAT BLASTED LIGHT!
DID YOU THINK NO ONE WOULD HEAR IT WHEN YOU BROKE THRU THAT SKYLIGHT?
'COURSE NOT! IT WAS THE WIZARD OF OZ!
OR MAYBE IT WAS BIG, BAD SPIDER-MAN!
C'MON! THE PADDY WAGON'S WAITING OUTSIDE! MOVE IT!


AND, AS THE LESS-THAN-EXUBERANT TRIO ARE USHERED OUT OF THE ALLEY, OUT OF THE SCENE, AND QUITE POSSIBLY OUT OF OUR LIVES... WE RETURN TO THE STOICALLY SUFFERING SUPERHERO OF OUR SOMEWHAT STIRRING SAGA...
THE PAIN... IS EVEN MORE INTENSE THAN EVER!
BUT, I'VE NEVER KNOWN SUCH A SENSATION!
IT'S AS THOUGH... IT'S COMING FROM.. OUTSIDE MY BODY!
AS THOUGH... IT ISN'T REALLY A PART OF ME!
I'VE GOT TO GET HOME... FAST...
WHILE I STILL CAN!

WHILE, MANY MILES AWAY... A STRANGELY SINISTER MAN REMAINS SEATED... GLOATING IN DEMONIACAL SATISFACTION...
THE MENTAL EMANATIONS WHICH I SENT FORTH HAVE BORNE FRUIT!
THUS, THE GAME HAS BEGUN! BUT, IT IS ONLY THE PRELUDE!
THE MOST DIFFICULT PART... THE MOST DEADLY PART... STILL LIES AHEAD!!

NOW, WITHOUT LEAVING MY CHAIR... I SHALL SEND SPIDER-MAN... TO HIS DOOM!
AND THE MOST INSIDIOUSLY BEAUTIFUL ASPECT OF MY ENTIRE PLAN IS...
HE WILL NEVER EVEN KNOW WHO IT IS WHO HAS DESTROYED HIM...
...NOR WILL HE EVER SUSPECT HOW IT WAS DONE!

I ALMOST WISH I COULD TELL HIM! I ALMOST WISH I COULD REVEL IN HIS SHOCK IF HE EVER LEARNED THE TRUTH!
I STILL REMEMBER THE BEGINNING...THOSE LONG YEARS AGO...
AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST EXPERTS ON PSYCHIC RESEARCH, I SPENT EVERY WAKING HOUR CONDUCTING EXPERIMENTS IN ESP...
IT'S NO GOOD! YOU DO NOT POSSESS THE POWER!
BUT...HOW CAN YOU BE SURE THAT ANYONE ACTUALLY POSSESSES EXTRA-SENSORY PERCEPTION?
IT'S VERY SIMPLE, MY DEAR!
I MYSELF HAVE THE POWER!
YES, I KNEW THAT I POSSESSED THE ABILITY TO PROJECT MY MIND...TO EXERT MY WILL OVER THE OTHERS! BUT, I WAS WEAK ...UNTRAINED...I NEEDED DISCIPLINE...I NEEDED A GURU..
THERE ARE OTHERS... SUCH AS THE ALMOST LEGENDARY ANCIENT ONE...AND HIS DISCIPLE, DR. STRANGE!
BUT, IT WOULD TAKE ME FAR TOO LONG TO FIND THEM!
ONCE I HAVE LEARNED ALL I CAN FROM BOOKS, I'LL USE ANOTHER METHOD!
SORCERY and WITCHCRAFT
PSYCHIC SCIENCE
AND SO, I FINALLY REACHED THE MECCA OF ALL WHO STUDY THE MYSTIC ARTS...
IT IS HERE THAT I SHALL FIND WHAT I SEEK!
IT WASN'T EASY! THE DAYS STRETCHED TO WEEKS...TO MONTHS...TO YEARS...BUT I PERSERVERED! FOR, THERE WAS A WORLD TO BE WON!
REMEMBER... YOU AND THE BOWL ARE ONE!
GOOD! GOOD! SEE HOW YOU ARE LIFTING IT...BY THOUGHT ALONE!
NEXT, I CAREFULLY COMPLETED MY "EDUCATION" IN DAHOMEY, THE CAPITAL OF SORCERY IN THE HEART OF AFRICA...
I'M THE ONLY FOREIGNER IN DECADES TO BE PERMITTED TO OBSERVE THE RITUAL OF JUJU... THE ART OF MENTALLY CONTROL-LING ANY ENEMY!
THEN, AT LAST, I KNEW...I WAS READY..!
7.

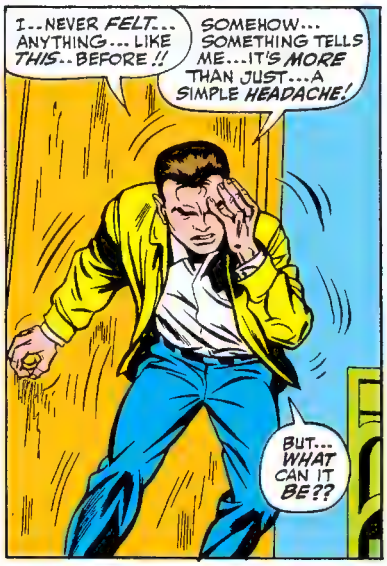

AND NOW, THE MOMENT IS HERE!
AIDED BY MY PSYCHO-INTENSIFIER, I HAVE THE POWER TO PUT MY OWN MENTALITY IN THE BODY OF ANOTHER...
IN THE BODY OF THE ONE WHO WILL DESTROY SPIDER-MAN!

ALL I NEED DO IS BRING MY FATEFUL CAST OF CHARACTERS TOGETHER!

AND, IN SO DOING, I'LL PROVE THAT THE SPAN OF COUNTLESS MILES CAN EASILY BE BRIDGED BY...THE SORCERER!

THEN, JUST AS THE SO-CALLED SORCERER APPLIES PRESSURE TO THE JUJU DOLL HE HOLDS IN HIS HANDS...
I'VE GOT TO REACH MY ROOM... BEFORE HARRY SEES ME...!
I'M TOO WEAK TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS!

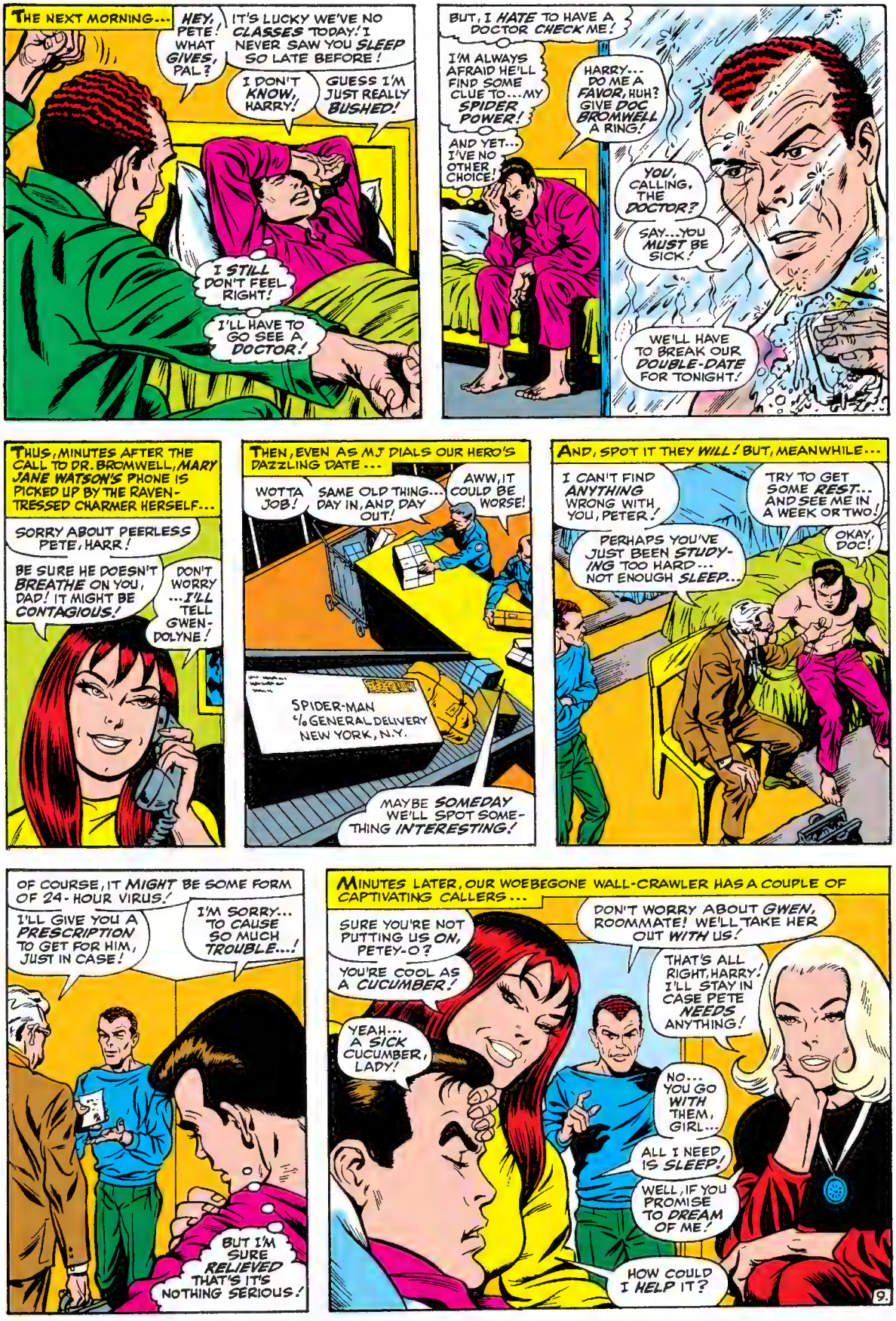
IF ONLY I... UNHHH! MY HEAD!!
THE PAIN... WORSE THAN EVER.. LIKE A THOUSAND TRIP-HAMMERS... POUNDING ON MY BRAIN!!

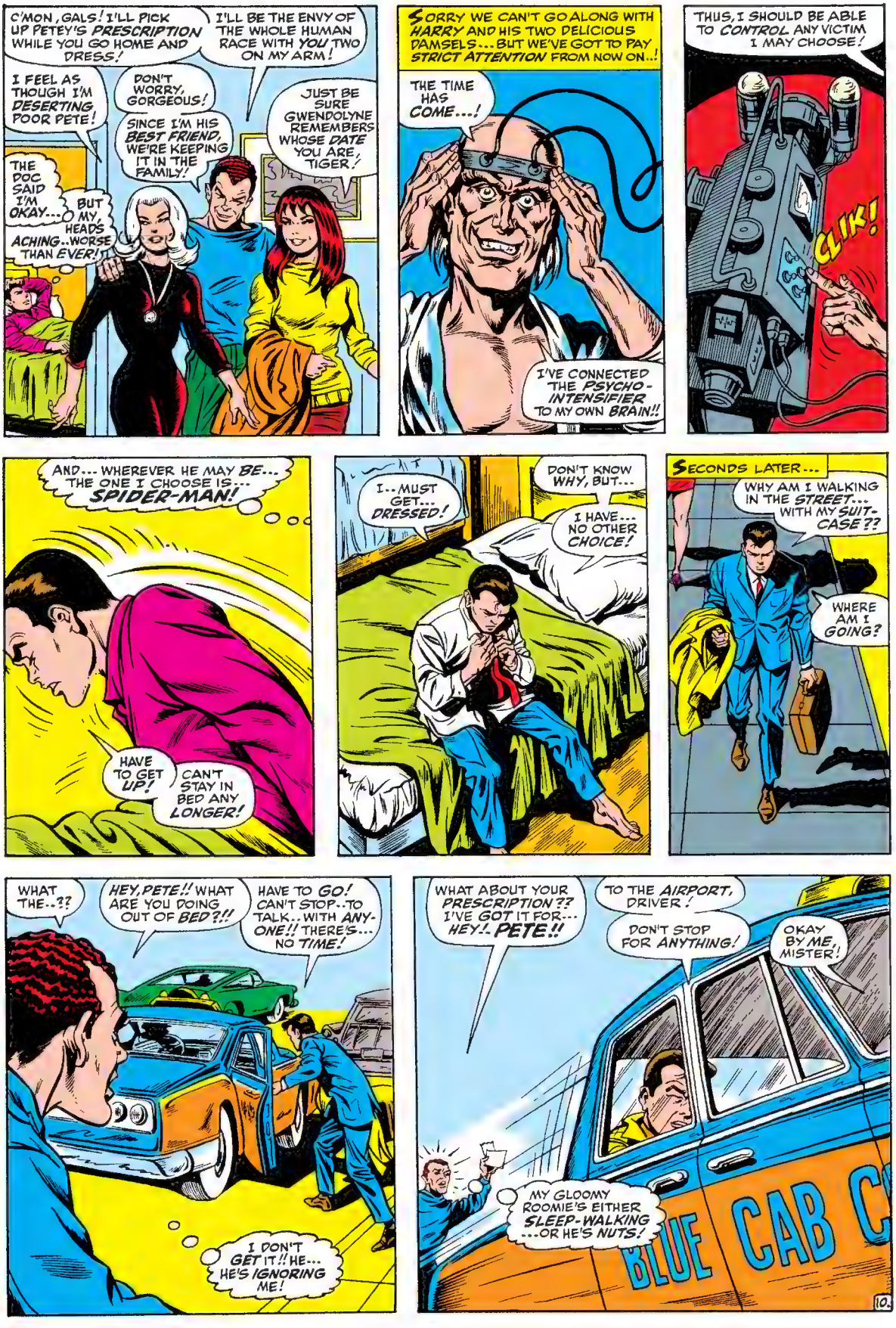

I..NEVER FELT... ANYTHING... LIKE THIS.. BEFORE !!
SOMEHOW... SOMETHING TELLS ME...IT'S MORE THAN JUST...A SIMPLE HEADACHE!
BUT... WHAT CAN IT BE??

I...MUSTN'T LET IT... GET ME!
WHATEVER IT IS... MAYBE AN ASPIRIN WILL HELP TO EASE THE PAIN...!
IF NOT...I DON'T KNOW... WHAT TO DO NEXT..!
IT'S GETTING BETTER...ALL OF A SUDDEN!.. WHY?

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE THE SORCERER HAS RELINQUISHED THE PRESSURE ON HIS FIGURINE --!
AND NOW... FOR PHASE TWO...!
JUJU DOLL
SPIDER-MAN
GENERAL DELIVERY
NEW YORK, N.Y.

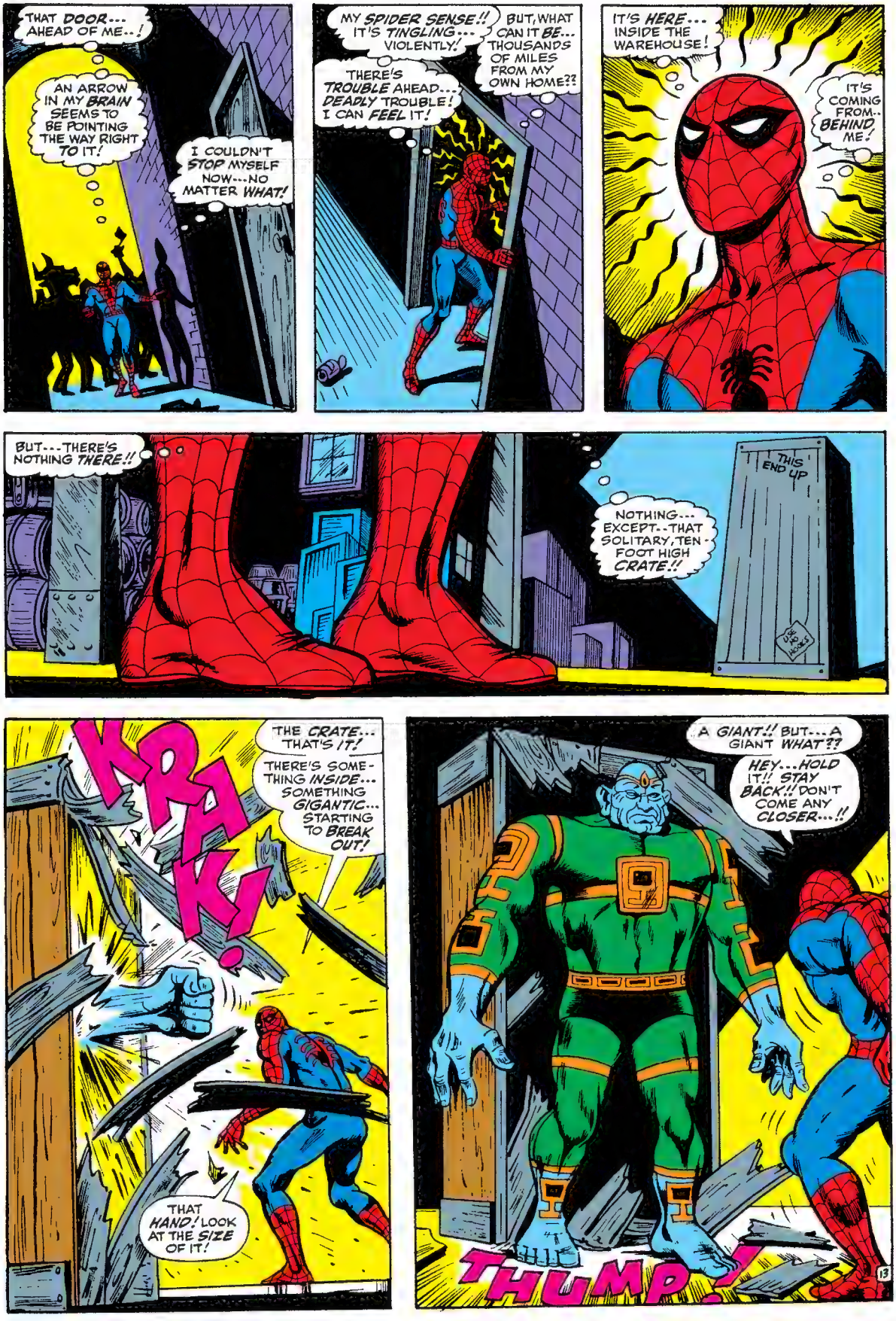
ALTHOUGH NOBODY KNOWS SPIDER-MAN'S ADDRESS, THE POLICE WILL SOONER OR LATER OPEN THIS PACKAGE...
AND THEN, THE WORLD WILL KNOW WHO IT WAS THAT DEFEATED HIM !!
BY THEN, IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO STOP ME..OR TO CATCH ME!
MY VICTORY WILL BE TRULY COMPLETE ONLY IF I RECEIVE FULL CREDIT FOR IT!
ALL OF MANKIND MUST LEARN TO FEAR THE AWESOME, INVINCIBLE, MYSTIC POWER OF...THE SORCERER!


THE NEXT MORNING...
HEY, PETE! WHAT GIVES, PAL?
IT'S LUCKY WE'VE NO CLASSES TODAY! I NEVER SAW YOU SLEEP SO LATE BEFORE!
I DON'T KNOW, HARRY!
GUESS I'M JUST REALLY BUSHED!
I STILL DON'T FEEL RIGHT!
I'LL HAVE TO GO SEE A DOCTOR!
BUT, I HATE TO HAVE A DOCTOR CHECK ME!
I'M ALWAYS AFRAID HE'LL FIND SOME CLUE TO...MY SPIDER POWER!
AND YET... I'VE NO OTHER CHOICE!
HARRY... DO ME A FAVOR, HUH? GIVE DOC BROMWELL A RING!
YOU, CALLING, THE DOCTOR?
SAY...YOU MUST BE SICK!
WE'LL HAVE TO BREAK OUR DOUBLE-DATE FOR TONIGHT!
THUS, MINUTES AFTER THE CALL TO DR. BROMWELL, MARY JANE WATSON'S PHONE IS PICKED UP BY THE RAVEN-TRESSED CHARMER HERSELF...
SORRY ABOUT PEERLESS PETE, HARR!
BE SURE HE DOESN'T BREATHE ON YOU, DAD! IT MIGHT BE CONTAGIOUS!
DON'T WORRY ...I'LL TELL GWEN-DOLYNE!
THEN, EVEN AS MJ DIALS OUR HERO'S DAZZLING DATE...
WOTTA JOB!
SAME OLD THING... DAY IN, AND DAY OUT!
AWW, IT COULD BE WORSE!
SPIDER-MAN %o GENERAL DELIVERY NEW YORK, N.Y.
MAYBE SOMEDAY WE'LL SPOT SOME-THING INTERESTING!
AND, SPOT IT THEY WILL! BUT, MEANWHILE...
I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG WITH YOU, PETER!
TRY TO GET SOME REST... AND SEE ME IN A WEEK OR TWO!
PERHAPS YOU'VE JUST BEEN STUDY-ING TOO HARD... NOT ENOUGH SLEEP...
OKAY, DOC!
OF COURSE, IT MIGHT BE SOME FORM OF 24-HOUR VIRUS!
I'LL GIVE YOU A PRESCRIPTION TO GET FOR HIM, JUST IN CASE!
I'M SORRY... TO CAUSE SO MUCH TROUBLE...!
BUT I'M SURE RELIEVED THAT'S IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS!
MINUTES LATER, OUR WOEBEGONE WALL-CRAWLER HAS A COUPLE OF CAPTIVATING CALLERS...
SURE YOU'RE NOT PUTTING US ON, PETEY-O?
YOU'RE COOL AS A CUCUMBER!
YEAH... A SICK CUCUMBER, LADY!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT GWEN, ROOMMATE! WE'LL TAKE HER OUT WITH US!
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, HARRY! I'LL STAY IN CASE PETE NEEDS ANYTHING!
NO... YOU GO WITH THEM, GIRL...
ALL I NEED IS SLEEP!
WELL, IF YOU PROMISE TO DREAM OF ME!
HOW COULD I HELP IT?
9.

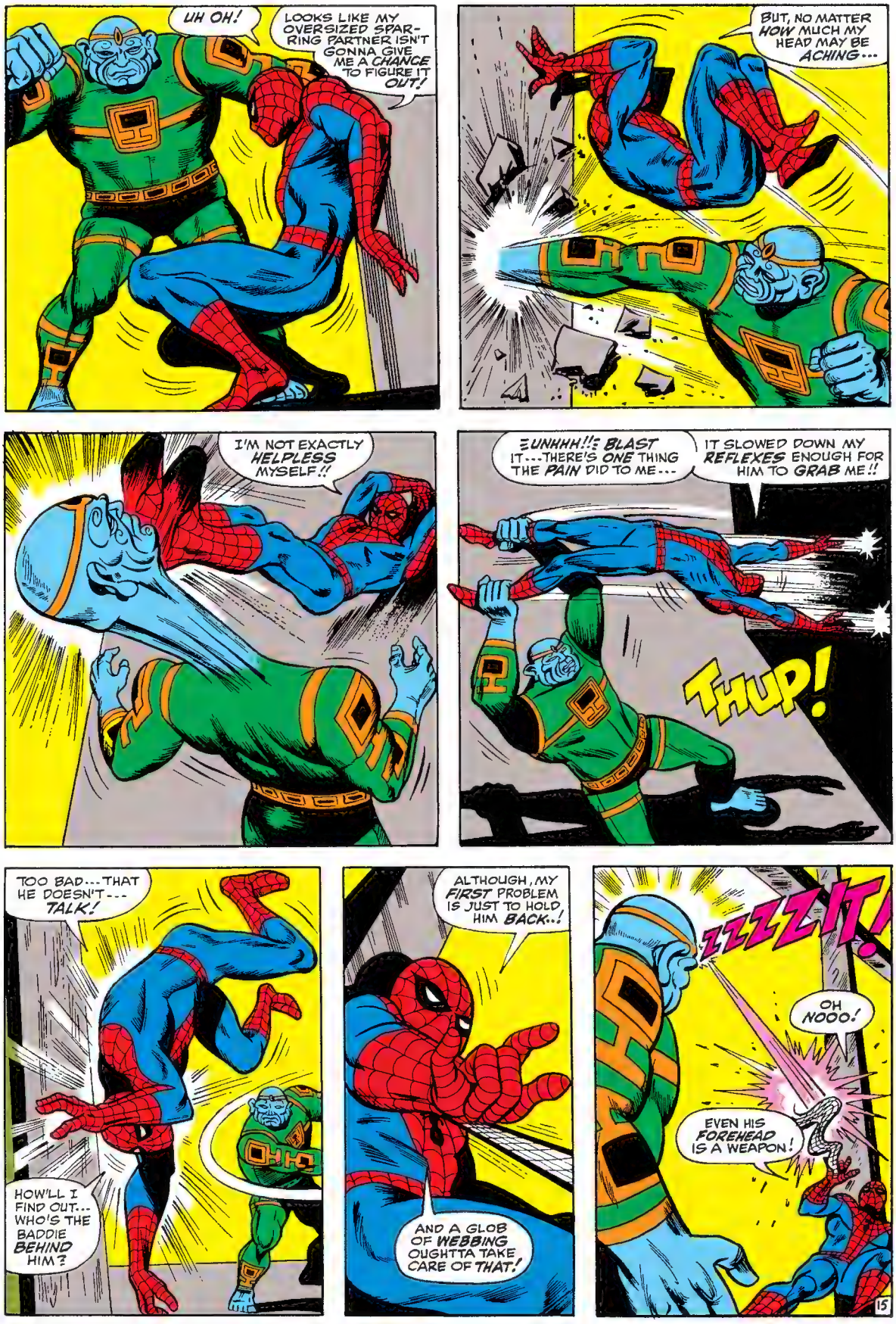

C'MON, GALS! I'LL PICK UP PETEY'S PRESCRIPTION WHILE YOU GO HOME AND DRESS!
I'LL BE THE ENVY OF THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE WITH YOU TWO ON MY ARM!
I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M DESERTING POOR PETE!
DON'T WORRY, GORGEOUS!
SINCE I'M HIS BEST FRIEND, WE'RE KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY!
JUST BE SURE GWENDOLYNE REMEMBERS WHOSE DATE YOU ARE, TIGER!
THE DOC SAID I'M OKAY...
BUT MY HEADS ACHING..WORSE THAN EVER!
SORRY WE CAN'T GO ALONG WITH HARRY AND HIS TWO DELICIOUS DAMSELS... BUT WE'VE GOT TO PAY STRICT ATTENTION FROM NOW ON..!
THE TIME HAS COME...!
I'VE CONNECTED THE PSYCHO-INTENSIFIER TO MY OWN BRAIN!!
THUS, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTROL ANY VICTIM I MAY CHOOSE!
CLIK!
AND... WHEREVER HE MAY BE... THE ONE I CHOOSE IS... SPIDER-MAN!
HAVE TO GET UP!
CAN'T STAY IN BED ANY LONGER!
I..MUST GET... DRESSED!
DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT...
I HAVE... NO OTHER CHOICE!
SECONDS LATER...
WHY AM I WALKING IN THE STREET... WITH MY SUIT-CASE??
WHERE AM I GOING?
WHAT THE..??
HEY, PETE!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT OF BED?!!
HAVE TO GO! CAN'T STOP..TO TALK..WITH ANY-ONE!! THERE'S... NO TIME!
I DON'T GET IT!! HE... HE'S IGNORING ME!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR PRESCRIPTION?? I'VE GOT IT FOR... HEY!.. PETE!!
TO THE AIRPORT, DRIVER!
DON'T STOP FOR ANYTHING!
OKAY BY ME, MISTER!
MY GLOOMY ROOMIE'S EITHER SLEEP-WALKING ...OR HE'S NUTS!
BLUE CAB C
10

BUT ALAS, PETER PARKER IS NEITHER SLEEP-WALKING, NOR IS HE NUTS! (AT LEAST, SO FAR AS WE KNOW!)
INSTEAD, HE IS FOLLOWING AN IRRESISTIBLE MENTAL COMMAND, MADE BY A SINISTER STRANGER WHOM HE'S NEVER EVEN SEEN---!
WHAT MADE ME DO IT?
WHY DID I BUY AN AIRLINE TICKET TO NEW ORLEANS?? I DON'T EVEN KNOW ANYONE THERE!
CAN I BE... GOING MAD??
THEN, A FEW SHORT HOURS LATER...
I FEEL LIKE SOME SORT OF MINDLESS PUPPET...
OBEYING THE COMMANDS OF SOME UNKNOWN, UNSEEN MASTER!
STILL, I HAVE TO SEE IT THRU!
I HAVE TO FOLLOW THIS MYSTIC PRODDING --- AND SEE WHERE IT LEADS ME!
LUCKY I HAD SOME MONEY SAVED UP---FROM THAT LAST BATCH OF NEWS PIX I SOLD TO JOLLY JONAH!
TAXI, MISTER?
SURE! MIGHT AS WELL ARRIVE IN STYLE!
ARRIVE WHERE?!! ... WHERE AM I GOING?
I'LL RELIEVE THE PRESSURE FOR A FEW MINUTES!
I MUST BE SURE I DO NOT OVER-TAX MYSELF... FOR THE MOMENT OF TRUTH IS STILL AHEAD!
THAT IS WHEN HE WILL MEET... THE SYNTHETIC MAN!
AND, AS THE GRUELLING PAIN MOMENTARILY SUB-SIDES WITHIN POOR PETER'S HEAD---
BETTER TAKE ME... TO THE NEAREST HOTEL!
I NEED A PLACE TO REST...TO THINK!!
WELL, IF THERE'S ONE THING THEY HAVE PLENTY OF IN NEW ORLEANS... IT'S HOTELS..!
NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE!
I MADE A MISTAKE CALLING DOC BROMWELL!
IT ISN'T A DOCTOR I NEED... NOT A DOCTOR LIKE HIM, ANYWAY!
I'M RIPE FOR A GOOD HEAD-SHRINKER!
GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US, SIR!
DO YOU PLAN TO STAY FOR THE ENTIRE MARDI GRAS?
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THERE WAS A MARDI GRAS --!
AS FOR HOW LONG I'LL STAY... YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE!
YES INDEED! YOU NEW YORKERS ARE GREAT LITTLE KIDDERS!
11.

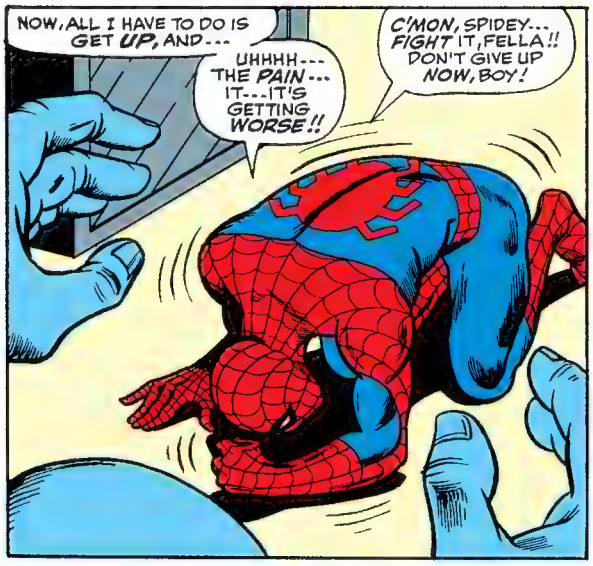
SECONDS LATER, WE FIND OUR "GREAT LITTLE KIDDER" DESPERATELY TRYING TO MAKE SOME SENSE OF WHAT HAS OCCURRED...
WHY WOULD I SUDDENLY TAKE A PLANE TO NEW ORLEANS... FOR NO REASON AT ALL?
IT'S AS THOUGH ...I'VE LOST CONTROL... OVER MY OWN ACTIONS!
AND, AS THE TROUBLED YOUTH ENGAGES IN SOME TORTUOUS SOUL-SEARCHING...
HEY, CHARLIE... WADDAYA MAKE OF THIS ONE?
A PACKAGE ADDRESSED ONLY TO SPIDER-MAN, CARE OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE!
MUST BE SOME KIND OF PRACTICAL JOKE!
BETTER RETURN IT TO THE SENDER, LOU!
SPIDER-MAN c/o GENERAL DELIVERY NEW YORK, N.Y.
SO, WHILE THE TIGHTLY-WRAPPED JUJU DOLL BAFFLES THE POST OFFICE HANDLERS...
SO MUCH NOISE OUT THERE...I CAN HARDLY THINK!
WHAT'S CAUSING ALL THE COMMOTION?
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!
THE MARDI GRAS HAS ALREADY STARTED!
WELL, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP WITH ALL THAT RACKET---THAT'S FOR SURE!
SO I MIGHT AS WELL GO DOWN AND JOIN THE FUN!
GOOD THING I BROUGHT MY SPIDEY SUIT ALONG!
WITH EVERYONE ELSE IN COSTUME, NOBODY'LL SUSPECT THAT THIS IS THE REAL THING!
STRANGE... MY HEAD ISN'T HURTING AS MUCH NOW!
WELL... HERE GOES!
UH-OH! I SPOKE TOO SOON!
THE PAIN'S WITH ME AGAIN... WORSE THAN EVER!
AND...SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE... GUIDING MY FOOTSTEPS..!
IT'S LIKE I HAVE TO WALK... IN THIS DIRECTION!
BUT, IF SPIDEY COULD SEE WHAT WE CAN, HE'D KNOW THE REASON WHY--!
NOW I MUST APPLY MORE PRESSURE THAN EVER!!
HE MUST WALK TOWARDS THE PREARRANGED WAREHOUSE!
FOR, IT IS THERE THAT HE WILL MEET... THE HOLLOW MAN!
CAN'T STOP MYSELF! I... HAVE TO... ENTER..THAT WARE-HOUSE..!
NEW ORLEANS WAREHOUSE
12

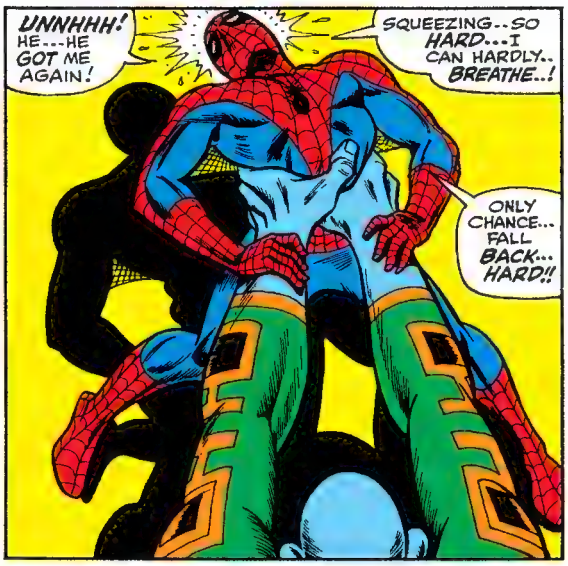

THAT DOOR... AHEAD OF ME..!
AN ARROW IN MY BRAIN SEEMS TO BE POINTING THE WAY RIGHT TO IT!
I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF NOW...NO MATTER WHAT!
MY SPIDER SENSE!! IT'S TINGLING... VIOLENTLY!
BUT, WHAT CAN IT BE... THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM MY OWN HOME??
THERE'S TROUBLE AHEAD... DEADLY TROUBLE! I CAN FEEL IT!
IT'S HERE... INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE!
IT'S COMING FROM.. BEHIND ME!
BUT...THERE'S NOTHING THERE!!
NOTHING... EXCEPT--THAT SOLITARY, TEN-FOOT HIGH CRATE!!
THIS END UP
KRAK!
THE CRATE... THAT'S IT!
THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE... SOMETHING GIGANTIC... STARTING TO BREAK OUT!
THAT HAND! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF IT!
A GIANT!! BUT...A GIANT WHAT??
HEY...HOLD IT!! STAY BACK!! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER...!!
THUMP!
13

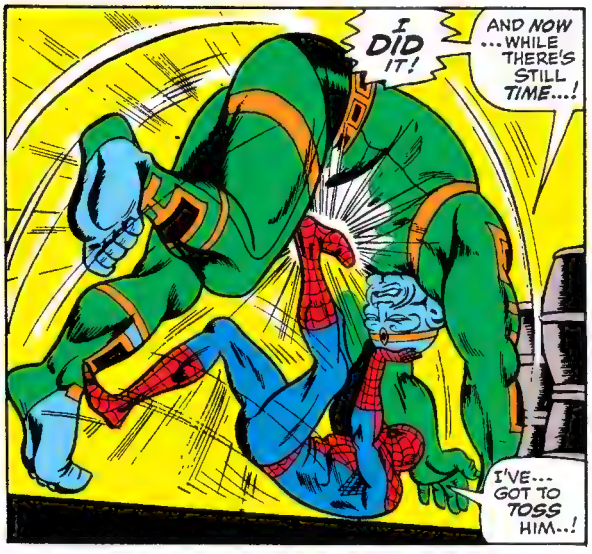
I DON'T KNOW WHO...OR WHAT YOU REALLY ARE--- BUT ONE THING'S SURE---
NOBODY WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF GETTING US TOGETHER JUST 'CAUSE THEY WANTED MY AUTO-GRAPH!
NOW LOOK!! I TOLD YOU TO STAY BA--- HEY!
HITTING YOU IS LIKE DRIVING MY FIST INTO SOLID RUBBER!!
THAT PROVES ONE THING... WHATEVER YOU ARE, IT SURE ISN'T HUMAN!
AND THAT PROVES SOMETHING ELSE...
A SPIDER-MAN FAN ---YOU AIN'T!
=UNHHH!= I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! HE CAN MAKE HIS BODY AS PLIABLE---OR AS ROCK HARD AS HE HAS TO!
I ALMOST CURDLED MY KNUCKLES ON HIM THAT TIME!
=OOOFF!= SOMETHING TELLS ME HE'S THE ANSWER TO EVERY-THING THAT'S BEEN HAPPENING TO ME LATELY!
SOMEONE WANTED ME TO COME TO NEW ORLEANS...JUST TO MEET THAT GIANT SYNTHETIC MAN!!
BUT WHO?? AND... WHY??
14.

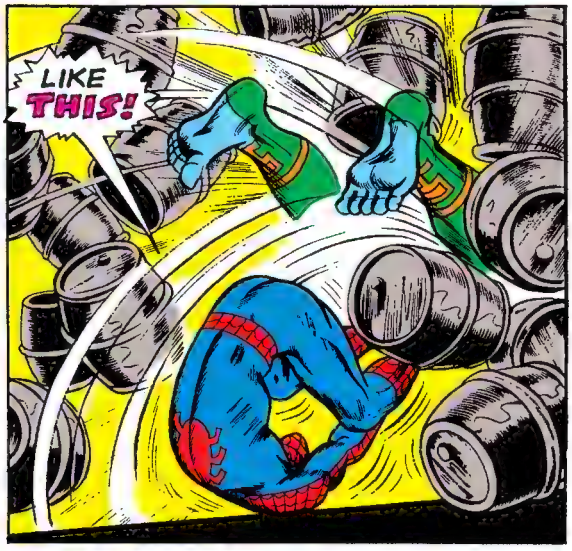

UH OH!
LOOKS LIKE MY OVERSIZED SPARRING PARTNER ISN'T GONNA GIVE ME A CHANCE TO FIGURE IT OUT!
BUT, NO MATTER HOW MUCH MY HEAD MAY BE ACHING...
I'M NOT EXACTLY HELPLESS MYSELF!!
UNHHH!!! BLAST IT---THERE'S ONE THING THE PAIN DID TO ME---
IT SLOWED DOWN MY REFLEXES ENOUGH FOR HIM TO GRAB ME!!
THUP!
TOO BAD---THAT HE DOESN'T--- TALK!
HOW'LL I FIND OUT... WHO'S THE BADDIE BEHIND HIM?
ALTHOUGH, MY FIRST PROBLEM IS JUST TO HOLD HIM BACK..!
AND A GLOB OF WEBBING OUGHTTA TAKE CARE OF THAT!
ZZZZIT!
OH NOOO!
EVEN HIS FOREHEAD IS A WEAPON!
15

BUT, ANY WELL-ADJUSTED LITTLE WALL-CRAWLER KNOWS WHEN IT'S TIME TO CUT OUT!
I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE THE SLOWEST DUCK IN A SHOOTING GALLERY!
FZZAT!
HIS BLAST JUST MISSED ME!!
BUT ITS IMPACT HAD ENOUGH FORCE TO KNOCK ME OFF MY PERCH ANYWAY!
THIS COULD ONLY HAPPEN TO A LOSER LIKE ME!
HERE I AM... FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE AGAINST A STRANGE SYNTHETIC MAN--!
AND I DON'T KNOW WHO... OR WHY.. OR ANYTHING!
IF ONLY MY HEAD WOULD STOP THROBBING!
I CAN'T EVEN SEEM TO THINK THROUGH ALL THE PAIN--!!
BTOK!
WELL, IF HE'S GOT HIS HEART SET ON BRINGING ME DOWN TO EARTH AGAIN---
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS OBLIGE HIM!
---SPECIALLY SINCE HE DIDN'T LEAVE ME ANY CHOICE!
THUP!
FTAP!
16

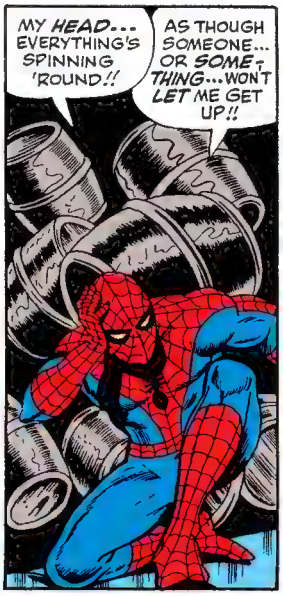

NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GET UP, AND...
UHHHH... THE PAIN... IT...IT'S GETTING WORSE!!
C'MON, SPIDEY... FIGHT IT, FELLA!! DON'T GIVE UP NOW, BOY!


UNNHHH! HE...HE GOT ME AGAIN!
SQUEEZING...SO HARD...I CAN HARDLY.. BREATHE..!
ONLY CHANCE... FALL BACK... HARD!!


I DID IT!
AND NOW ...WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME...!
I'VE... GOT TO TOSS HIM..!

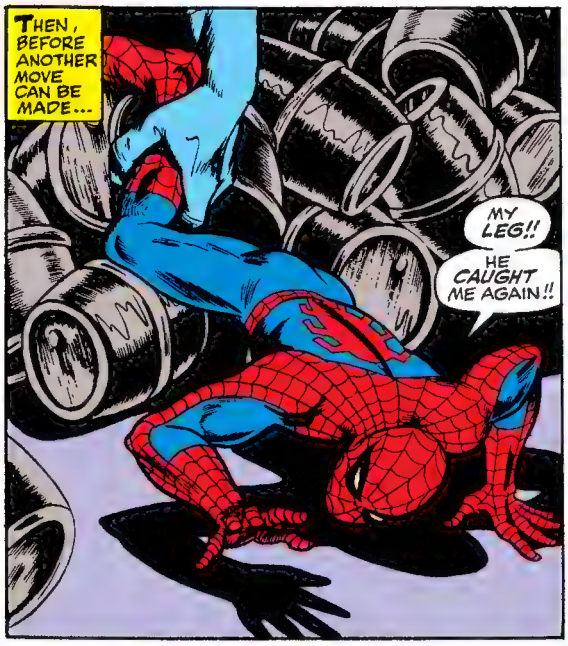

LIKE THIS!

THIS IS MY CHANCE! I CAN MAKE A BREAK FOR IT, WHILE HE'S UNDER THE BARRELS!

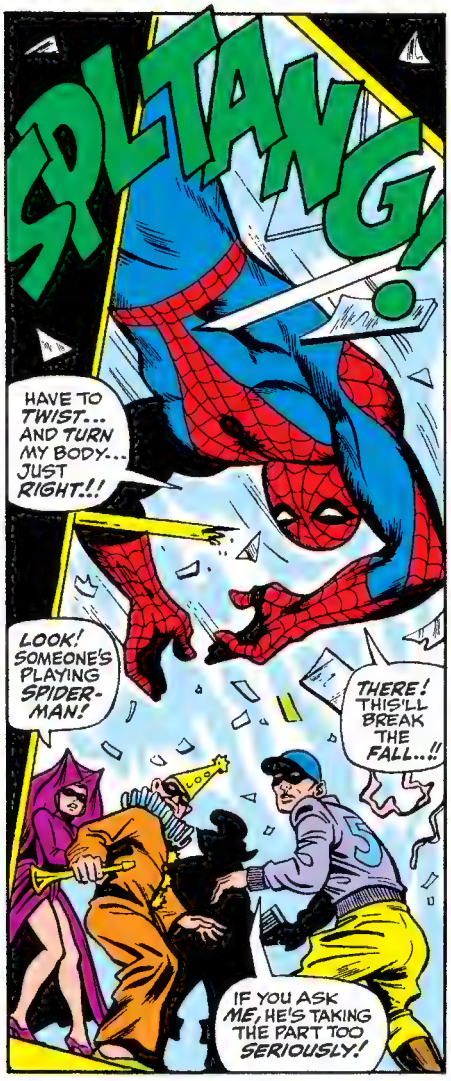

MY HEAD... EVERYTHING'S SPINNING 'ROUND!!
AS THOUGH SOMEONE... OR SOMETHING...WON'T LET ME GET UP!!

CAN'T EVEN...KEEP MY BALANCE!!
CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE... OF THIS...WITHOUT...BLACKING OUT...!

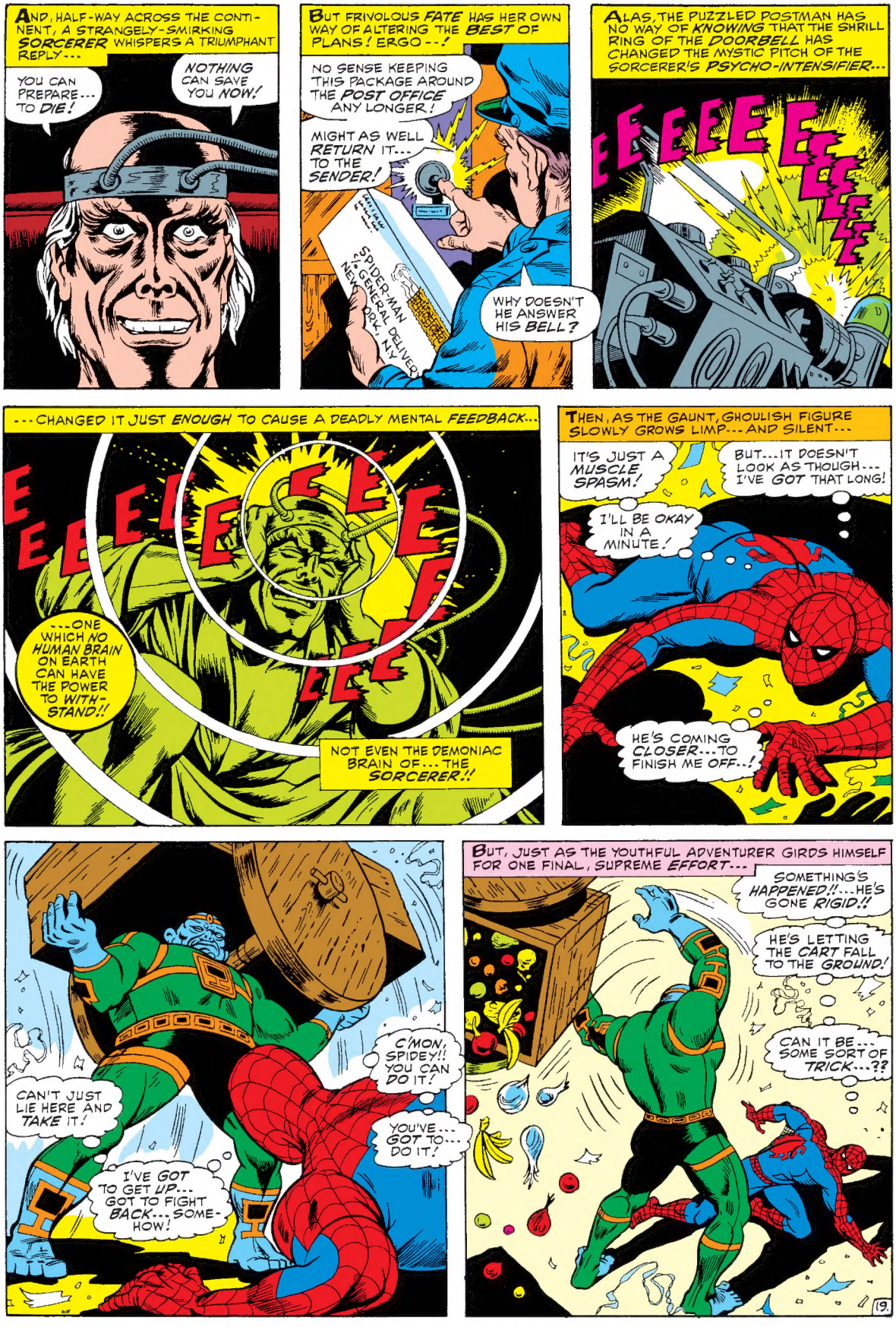
WHOEVER YOU ARE... WHOEVER IS DOING THIS TO ME...
SHOW YOURSELF!! DO YOU HEAR..?? YOU CRUMMY .. COWARD..!!

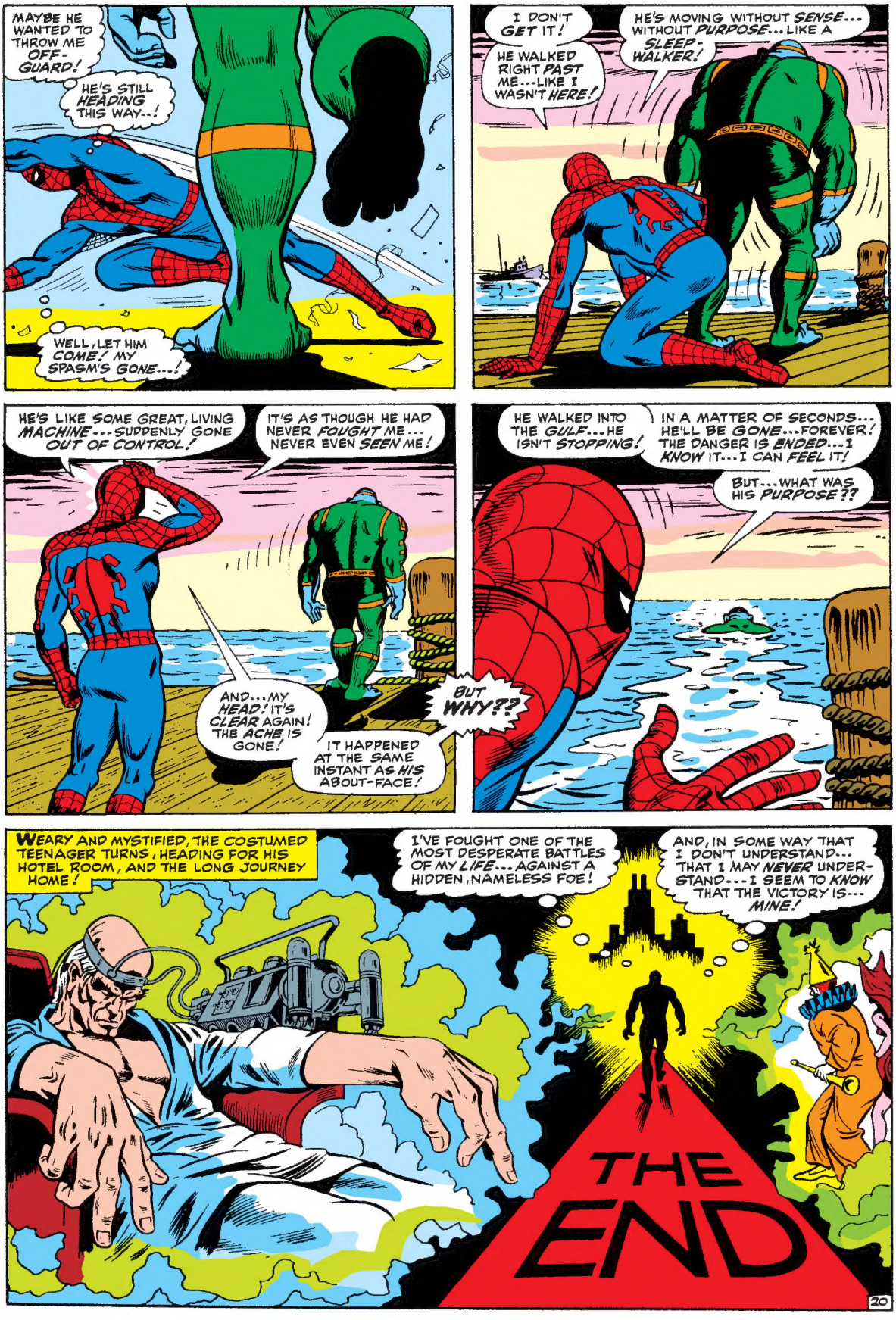

THEN, BEFORE ANOTHER MOVE CAN BE MADE...
MY LEG!!
HE CAUGHT ME AGAIN!!

HE'S MOVING.. TOO FAST!
NOT... TAKING ANY... CHANCES!
ABOUT TO TOSS ME...THRU THE WINDOW!


SPLTANG!
HAVE TO TWIST... AND TURN MY BODY... JUST RIGHT!!
LOOK! SOMEONE'S PLAYING SPIDER-MAN!
THERE! THIS'LL BREAK THE FALL..!!
IF YOU ASK ME, HE'S TAKING THE PART TOO SERIOUSLY!

WHAT A GREAT BIT!!
FIRST SPIDEY...AND NOW, SOMEONE PRETENDING TO BE A GIANT SUPER-VILLAIN!
I...CERTAINLY HOPE..HE'S PRETENDING!
SAY--LOOK AT THE GUY!
HE MUST HAVE HURT HIMSELF IN THE FALL!!
PAIN... WORSE THAN EVER--!
CAN'T EVEN STAND!! WHAT AM I GONNA DO?? WHAT CAN I DO??


AND, HALF-WAY ACROSS THE CONTINENT, A STRANGELY-SMIRKING SORCERER WHISPERS A TRIUMPHANT REPLY---
YOU CAN PREPARE--- TO DIE!
NOTHING CAN SAVE YOU NOW!
BUT FRIVOLOUS FATE HAS HER OWN WAY OF ALTERING THE BEST OF PLANS! ERGO---!
NO SENSE KEEPING THIS PACKAGE AROUND THE POST OFFICE ANY LONGER!
MIGHT AS WELL RETURN IT--- TO THE SENDER!
SPIDER-MAN C/O GENERAL DELIVERY NEW YORK, N.Y.
WHY DOESN'T HE ANSWER HIS BELL?
ALAS, THE PUZZLED POSTMAN HAS NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT THE SHRILL RING OF THE DOORBELL HAS CHANGED THE MYSTIC PITCH OF THE SORCERER'S PSYCHO-INTENSIFIER...
EEEEEEEEEEEE
---CHANGED IT JUST ENOUGH TO CAUSE A DEADLY MENTAL FEEDBACK...
---ONE WHICH NO HUMAN BRAIN ON EARTH CAN HAVE THE POWER TO WITHSTAND!!
NOT EVEN THE DEMONIAC BRAIN OF--- THE SORCERER!!
THEN, AS THE GAUNT, GHOULISH FIGURE SLOWLY GROWS LIMP--- AND SILENT---
IT'S JUST A MUSCLE SPASM!
BUT...IT DOESN'T LOOK AS THOUGH--- I'VE GOT THAT LONG!
I'LL BE OKAY IN A MINUTE!
HE'S COMING CLOSER---TO FINISH ME OFF--!
CAN'T JUST LIE HERE AND TAKE IT!
C'MON, SPIDEY!! YOU CAN DO IT!
I'VE GOT TO GET UP--- GOT TO FIGHT BACK---SOMEHOW!
YOU'VE--- GOT TO--- DO IT!
BUT, JUST AS THE YOUTHFUL ADVENTURER GIRDS HIMSELF FOR ONE FINAL, SUPREME EFFORT---
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED!!---HE'S GONE RIGID!!
HE'S LETTING THE CART FALL TO THE GROUND!
CAN IT BE--- SOME SORT OF TRICK---??


MAYBE HE WANTED TO THROW ME OFF-GUARD!
HE'S STILL HEADING THIS WAY--!
WELL, LET HIM COME! MY SPASM'S GONE--!
I DON'T GET IT!
HE WALKED RIGHT PAST ME--LIKE I WASN'T HERE!
HE'S MOVING WITHOUT SENSE--WITHOUT PURPOSE--LIKE A SLEEP-WALKER!
HE'S LIKE SOME GREAT, LIVING MACHINE--SUDDENLY GONE OUT OF CONTROL!
IT'S AS THOUGH HE HAD NEVER FOUGHT ME--NEVER EVEN SEEN ME!
AND--MY HEAD! IT'S CLEAR AGAIN! THE ACHE IS GONE!
IT HAPPENED AT THE SAME INSTANT AS HIS ABOUT-FACE!
HE WALKED INTO THE GULF--HE ISN'T STOPPING!
BUT WHY??
IN A MATTER OF SECONDS--HE'LL BE GONE--FOREVER! THE DANGER IS ENDED--I KNOW IT--I CAN FEEL IT!
BUT--WHAT WAS HIS PURPOSE??
WEARY AND MYSTIFIED, THE COSTUMED TEENAGER TURNS, HEADING FOR HIS HOTEL ROOM, AND THE LONG JOURNEY HOME!
I'VE FOUGHT ONE OF THE MOST DESPERATE BATTLES OF MY LIFE--AGAINST A HIDDEN, NAMELESS FOE!
AND, IN SOME WAY THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND--THAT I MAY NEVER UNDERSTAND--I SEEM TO KNOW THAT THE VICTORY IS--MINE!
THE END

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Tyrant Lizard Kings
EMPIRE